

Classroom assessment system raises fears of crude salary judgments being introduced through the back door

Union urges teachers to resist pay by performance

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA, EDUCATION REPORTER

TEACHERS should resist any move to introduce performance related pay through the "back door" of the new appraisal system, leaders of the second largest teaching union said yesterday.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, said that his union had always been suspicious of the system, which became compulsory in September. "We've been warning teachers for six years that it would be used to assess pay and for disciplinary purposes."

Maurice Littlewood, the union's new president, said in his inaugural address to its annual conference in Scarborough that appraisal was more likely to be used as a crude indicator for performance related pay than as a tool in the development of teachers' careers.

"For those who see our schools as competing units in a market-driven service, the management style of rewards and punishments may seem desirable," he said. "I see no future in the enhancement of professionalism by stifling the stick and guiding the carrot. Teachers should be paid on a collegiate basis within each school and rewarded as a

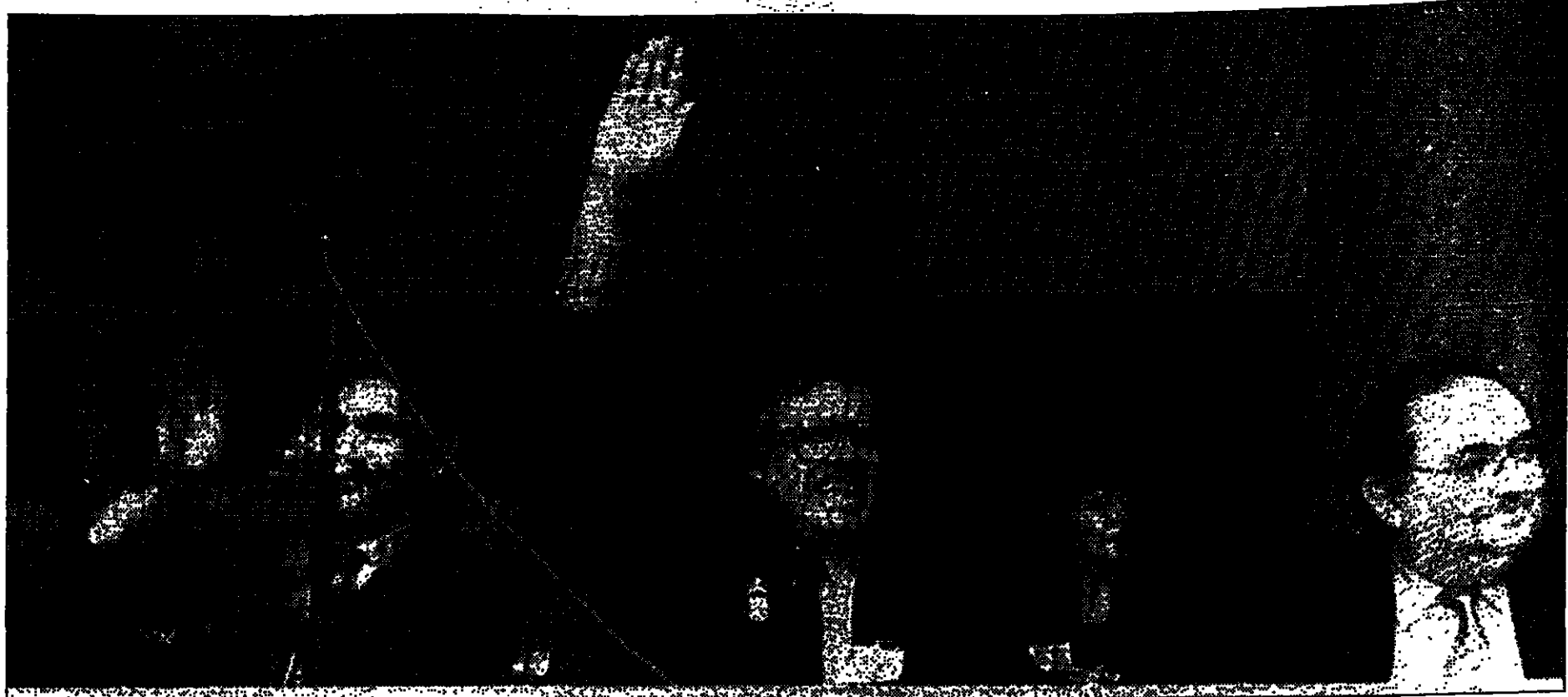
group for improvements in standards, he said.

The union will consider a series of motions on appraisal this week, including one proposing a national boycott of teachers' assessments until appropriate guidelines and resources have been negotiated nationally.

Mr Littlewood said that the 1988 Education Reform Act had emasculated education authorities and left teachers the victims of "initiative fatigue". The profession was straining under the workload of the national curriculum. "Teachers can no longer be expected to do the impossible," he said. "We can no longer pretend that we can plait sawdust and knit treacle on demand."

In an attempt to trump the parent's charter, Mr Littlewood called for a charter which would spell out government obligations and teacher responsibilities, and free education from party political prejudice. "If teachers wholeheartedly seize this charter initiative, they will have an opportunity of putting a professional dimension on proposals for their own future and that of the service," he said.

NUT backs down, page 1
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Count me in: Malcolm Horne, NUT executive member, centre, with general secretary Doug McAvoy, right, acknowledging applause in Scarborough yesterday

Schools cannot ignore appraisals

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

TEACHERS in state schools are to have their performance appraised by the middle of 1995. The process has already begun in many parts of England and Wales.

What concerns the NUT and the other teacher associations is that a system designed to enhance professional development will also be used to determine performance related pay, and may be brought into promotion and disciplinary procedures.

Education ministers say that, although there will be

no automatic link between pay and appraisal, head teachers should consider reports when framing recommendations to governors.

With the government determined to introduce performance related pay and the teachers' pay review body unable to suggest a basis for assessing individuals, appraisal reports would be an obvious starting point. Head teachers, who would recommend pay, could hardly ignore the conclusions of appraisals.

Teachers will be assessed by department heads or head teachers every two years. Having been twice observed in the classroom for at least an hour, they will be set targets at an interview. A review of progress will take place in the following year.

Appraisal systems and performance payments are increasingly popular among companies (Robin Young writes). A survey by Alan Jones & Associates, a salary and benefit specialist, of 185 firms with turnovers from £1 million to £3,400 million, found that two thirds related salaries to appraisals and a tenth had introduced a pay-for-performance system within the past year.

IN the National Union of Teachers' annual contest between the left and the far left, the moderates are ahead on points. But anything could happen in the last round.

The Labour-leaning Broad Left group, which holds the majority of seats on the union's executive, breathed a sigh of relief when conference delegates rejected a policy of non-cooperation with appraisal yesterday. But it knows that it may not be able to hold the line on national strikes over redundancies and local action on class size.

Many delegates switched their allegiance overnight on appraisal, and are quite capable of doing so again. Politically uncommitted and inexperienced delegates at the NUT's annual conference can be swayed by an anti-establishment atmosphere, relegated to the role of onlookers in the main debates. The organised political groups monopolised the speeches on the big issues, turning some debates into battles between the different executive factions.

The atmosphere of confusion is exacerbated by a shortage of charismatic moderate leaders. The union's dominant person-

Moderates ahead on points but anything could happen

Doug McAvoy, leader of the NUT, takes a ringside seat as the left and far left slug it out, John O'Leary reports

Although moderates hold sway on the NUT's executive, they have had to resort to procedural manoeuvres at times to control the conference. It took two debates to persuade a majority of delegates that returning to established policy on appraisal was preferable to an unachievable negotiating position which included allowing teachers to choose the person who would assess them. Malcolm Horne, for the executive, warned the conference that such a demand would attract public scorn.

The groups pushing the more militant line are the Socialist Teachers Alliance and the Campaign for a Democratic Fighting Union, both hard left coalitions confined to the NUT. Leaders of both have taken an uncharacteristically low profile at a time when some are unlikely to support strikes except to defend their own jobs.

The Socialist Teachers Alliance, with ten executive members, draws support

from the left of the Labour Party and the Socialist Workers Party. Its strength lies in London. Conference supporters tend to be younger delegates, such as Andy Dixon, the executive member from Greater Manchester who insisted yesterday that a boycott of appraisal would improve state schools.

Although less numerous on the conference floor, the Campaign for a Democratic Fighting Union has captured two vital NUT posts, with Mary Huford as deputy general secretary and Ian Much as treasurer. Richard Rleser, leader of the militant Hackney Association, in east London, is the main conference voice of a group which is less open than the Alliance about its political links and frequently more extreme.

Neither of the groups can claim substantial membership among the NUT's 183,000 members, who could be expected to repudiate most of the left's calls to arms if the conference did not do so first. Only in the local disputes which are occurring with increasing regularity is there any evidence of the militant attitudes commonplace in Blackpool this weekend.

Salary deal lures graduates

THE growing number of graduates flocking to the teaching profession has been widely attributed to the bite of the recession but the improved salary structure which comes into force this month is likely to encourage the trend, Matthew d'Ancona writes.

A pay rise of 7.5 per cent was awarded to the 420,000 teachers in England and Wales in line with the first recommendations of the School Teachers' Review Body established as part of John Major's promise to

raise teachers' living standards.

The classroom teacher now earns £18,200 an average of while a graduate with a good honours degree will enter the profession on at least £12,300 outside London, rising to £14,200 in the capital. Primary heads will earn about £25,500, with the maximum salary for the head teacher of a large secondary creeping above £50,000 for the first time.

The deal, which was well ahead of inflation, surprised

many, but discontent still runs deep among teachers, whose pay has fallen 7.5 per cent in relation to non-manual workers in the private sector in ten years.

Many local authorities fear they will be unable to pay for the new settlement, which will cost £765 million with only £60 million of extra funding from the government. The National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers argues that the underfunded pay rises will cause hundreds of redundancies.

Docklands protesters sue group for £10m

BY DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 1,000 people living in the East End of London are to seek a total of £10 million in compensation for the disruption of their lives caused by the building of a link road in London Docklands since 1989.

Solicitors acting for residents' groups in Tower Hamlets have said that they had decided to proceed after the failure of an appeal by the London Docklands Development Corporation against eight convictions for causing noise pollution.

Knightbridge crown court last week upheld the convictions which were secured by Tower Hamlets Council. The development corporation said that it was considering a further appeal but would not comment further.

Sally Moore, a solicitor acting for the residents, said the court's ruling that the corporation was legally responsible for the actions of contractors had opened the way for the compensation claims.

Local people had been under "incredible stress" since work began on building the Limehouse link road which is designed to improve connections between Docklands and the rest of London. They had suffered respiratory problems caused by dust and stress related illnesses caused by excessive noise, she said.

"Our clients have been living on top of one of Europe's largest building sites for over three years. They have had to endure massive disruption to the quality of their lives due to noise levels, dust, dirt and pollution."

Writs seeking damages of up to £10,000 a person would be served on the London Docklands Development Corporation within the next fortnight, she said.

Unions warn of civil unrest in home rule fight

BY KERRY GILL

THE president of the Scottish TUC yesterday warned that civil disobedience could erupt to coincide with the European summit in Edinburgh later this year as a way of shaming the government into granting home rule.

Jane McKay called on unions affiliated to the STUC to organise a "strategic event" when the European heads of government meet in December. "We must have a planned strategy for that summit. And if that means 'living a little dangerously', as one of our most respected Scottish politicians has suggested, then perhaps we should be prepared to pick up that mantle," she said.

Ms McKay's remarks, at the start of the STUC's conference in Perth, were interpreted as a call for some form of civil disobedience, a strategy that has received backing among opposition parties and the Scottish Constitutional Convention. In her presidential address she said: "Our claim for constitutional

change, for a Scottish parliament, is more legitimate now since the election. The majority of the people of Scotland voted for change. The Tories are desperate to look for stop-gap measures to stem the tide."

Today's STUC debate on constitutional reform is likely to be overshadowed by a dispute caused by the refusal to allow Alex Salmond, the Scottish National Party leader, to address the conference. Mr Salmond, who has blamed the Labour party for persuading the STUC's general council to withdraw a proposed invitation, will hold a news conference in Perth, just several hundred yards from the conference. He is expected to give details of what he would have told and, because of the snub, is assured all the more publicity for his views.

Ms McKay called on the SNP to drop its "isolationist" position and appealed for unity among the various groups calling for home rule. The conference is certain to



Tea break: Jane McKay, right, STUC president, with member Carmen McAteer

back a demand to John Major that the government holds a multi-option referendum on Scotland's constitution.

With district elections taking place next month, Mr Salmond will be keen to emphasise a split between the Labour party and those who would want to involve the SNP in talks on a referendum. It was, he said, Labour that sabotaged his expectation to address the STUC debate. "Obviously the Labour party seem to be extremely

anxious about the support and currency that the ideas I would put forward would have on the floor of the congress," he said.

Meanwhile, Britain's two biggest unions have launched a campaign to secure better training for all workers.

Too many firms regard training as a gift "for the privileged few" or offer barely adequate schemes, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the GMB general union said. The unions have

drafted a model training agreement which will feature in all major negotiations. The draft agreement provides for induction training for new workers and a minimum of five days' training or education each year for all workers.

John Edmonds, GMB general secretary, said: "Training is an important benefit for employees and it should be negotiated across the bargaining table just like holidays, sick pay and pensions."

Karaoke finds old is best

BY NICHOLAS WAIT

WHAT kind of people are foolhardy enough to hurl off their jacket in the middle of a bar and grab a microphone to sing along to their favourite songs? Certainly not dashing young folk, judging by the first Top Ten chart of Britain's most popular karaoke hits, which has a distinctly middle-aged feel.

At the top of the *Music Week* chart is that old trouper Frank Sinatra with *My Way*. He is followed by Gloria Gaynor's *I Will Survive*, the Righteous Brothers' *You've Lost That Loving Feeling* and Yesterday by the Beatles.

Steve Lindsey, general manager of Island Music, which publishes karaoke songs, said: "The list does seem to be very 1960s. I must admit I was very surprised to see Jeff Beck's *Hi Ho Silver Lining* in the top ten. I think the chart does say something about the age of your average karaoke singer, although hits such as *My Way* do appeal to all ages from birth."

When karaoke singing was introduced to Britain in the 1980s its appeal hardly stretched beyond a couple of central London bars where uninhibited Japanese businessmen could unwind after work just like the folks back home. The British were mildly amused.

Now even the most diffident Englishman will grab the microphone for a raw display of his singing talents. Karaoke is such a routine part of pub entertainment that Mike Mason, owner of the karaoke hire company, MPM Entertainments, said: "It is up there with the dartboard in pub entertainment."

There are more than 10,000 venues with karaoke machines and there is even a National Karaoke Academy. Most musicians are quite happy to allow drunken amateurs to sing along to their songs.

Victims of arson named

A nurse was one of five people killed when an arsonist struck at a birthday party, police said yesterday.

Mabel Smith Roberts, 45, from Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, arrived in Hove, East Sussex, the day before fire broke out in the house. She died when she tried to jump 60ft to safety as flames engulfed the third-floor flat early on Saturday. Police last night identified another victim as Andrew Manners, 29, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

The dead included the host, Tim Sharpe, 28. Two victims, both men, are still unidentified. The blaze is thought to have begun when someone ignited a sofa on the landing below the flat.

Detectives interviewed two men believed to have left the party before the sofa was ignited but remain anxious to trace two others. They were continuing house-to-house enquiries. One man is about 5ft 10in and aged 35, the other is 5ft 7in, lean, tanned and in his late twenties.

Pair remanded

A couple were remanded in custody yesterday, accused of harbouring Stephen Miller, 36, a murder suspect nicknamed "The Caverman". Karen Weaver and Liam Mellin, of Barry, South Glamorgan, appeared before a special sitting of Neath magistrates. Mr Miller disappeared last month after Adrian Hughes, 28, a former supermarket manager, was found battered and stabbed.

Police car crash

A patrol car policeman was injured yesterday after a high hiker on the M1 who refused to leave the motorway was being taken to a police station. The police car crashed into a garden wall at Hendon, northwest London. Brian Spencer, 25, unemployed and of no fixed address, is due in court today accused of having an offensive weapon, affray and causing grievous bodily harm.

Flighty birds leave amorous albatross alone

BY KERRY GILL

ALBERT the loveliest albatross sat miserably at the foot of the Herma Ness cliffs on Shetland yesterday contemplating another season of celibacy worsened by the repeated rebuffs from the twittering female gannets that circle his nest.

Being almost certainly the only black-browed albatross in the North Atlantic has left Albert a reluctant bachelor for the past 30 years. All attempts at striking up a romance with the local gannet females have got the brush-off. He appears to be unaware that the breeding colonies of the black-browed albatross are 8,000 miles away in the Falklands.



An albatross, but not lovelorn like Albert

Albert was first noticed in his adult plumage off the Bass Rock in Lothian 25 years ago. He may have decided he would have better

luck among the vast seabird colonies of Shetland where the females might be impressed by his 7ft wingspan.

He duly appeared at Herma Ness, the storm-washed northern tip of Shetland, in the spring of 1972. Twitters have come from all over Britain, the Continent and America to see him and the islanders grew so fond of the lovelorn bird that they named him Albert.

It appears that he attempts the occasional pass at local gannets, the birds closest in size and appearance to an albatross, although his desire has not been reciprocated.

Kevin Osborne, editor of the *Shetland Bird Report*, said that Albert dabbled in

foreplay but with no obvious results. "He has tried to court with the gannets moving his beak and flapping his wings in a pseudo-mating display but he won't breed with a gannet. He will be seriously frustrated."

Steve Gantlett, of the Bird Information Service, was also pessimistic about Albert's chances after a quarter of a century of celibacy. "It is possible there is more than one black-browed albatross in the North Atlantic but the chances of them meeting up in the vastness of the ocean have to be remote."

Pete Ellis, a Shetland ornithologist who works for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, doubted that

Albert fancied the gannets and reckoned that he grew angry whenever the smaller seabirds came too close. Mr Ellis said Albert spent most of his time sitting forlornly at the foot of the cliffs fishing for squid.

It will probably be of little consolation to Albert to learn that another bird, albeit a lot smaller, is languishing without a mate at the other end of Britain. The 10in Ancient Murrelet on Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel is also looking for a partner similarly unaware that true love lies on the other side of the world — in this case the Aleutian Islands in the North Pacific.

Perhaps someone should introduce them.

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Sister of man wanted in murder hunt is charged

By CRAIG SETON

THE sister of one of three men being sought in connection with the shooting of an army recruitment sergeant in Derby appeared in court yesterday charged with impeding the apprehension of a murder suspect.

Kathleen Mary Magee, 30, of Derby, who appeared before a special sitting of the city's magistrates' court, was accused under the Prevention of Terrorism Act of failing to disclose information that she knew or believed might be of material assistance in the apprehension, prosecution or conviction of a person for an

offence involving terrorism between April 13 and 16.

She was also charged under the Criminal Law Act with performing an act intended to impede the apprehension or prosecution of a person she knew or believed to be guilty of an arrestable offence, namely murder.

The court was searched by police with dogs before the hearing and people entering the building were searched. Miss Magee was remanded into police custody for three days. There was no application for bail and reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Remand over boy's killing

A JOBLESS man was remanded in custody for seven days yesterday, charged with murdering Matthew Robinson, aged 4, at his parents' lodging house in Plymouth, Devon.

James Stuart Cochrane, 25, who appeared before a special sitting of Plymouth magistrates and was handcuffed to two police officers, was also charged with a serious sexual offence against the boy. He allegedly committed the offences between April 13 and 16. No bail application was made and Mr Cochrane was remanded in custody until April 27.

Matthew was found dead in bed last Wednesday morning. Mr Cochrane was formerly a lodger at the house.



Cochrane: a former lodger at house

Shops welcome Easter sales rise

By ALISON ROBERTS

SHOP sales rose over Easter, but retailers remained cautious about the prospects for recovery.

Harrods reported a turnover of £1.3 million over the holiday period, which was about double last year's, partly because the store opened on Good Friday for the first time. A spokesman said that the shop had had an "extremely good Easter", but that it was too early to predict a substantial increase in consumer confidence. "The signs are encouraging, because spending is more steady. A few months ago it was much more unpredictable."

Anne Horton, assistant manager at the Dickens & Jones department store in Regent Street, said that trading

had been good, but not unusual. "There were a lot of people, but lots were sightseers."

Bill Whiting, marketing director of B&Q, said: "We have to remain cautious at this stage. We did very well, but we were expecting to. I think consumer confidence will pick up with the general economy, and it will be gradual. I am not sure that I trust the post-election boom predictions."

The Oxford Street branch of Next, the clothing and furnishing retailer, has seen increasing sales for the past six months. "As far as we are concerned, people are spending as much money as they used to," Marc Smith, the manager, said.



Sleepy feeling: Thomas the dalmatian failing to stifle a yawn as it rides beside its owner, George Hawkins of Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, in the 25th London harness horse parade in Regent's Park yesterday. Mr

Hawkins was driving his paired hackneys, Ackroyd Black Magic and Parum Bright Light in a phaeton competing in the pair harnessed vehicles class (Robin Young writes). The parade, for which there were over

230 entries, amalgamates the London cart horse parade, founded in 1885 and which was traditionally held on Whit Monday, and the London van horse parade, started in 1904 and held every Easter Monday

since with the exception of periods of the two world wars. Though the parades were originally intended for working horses, owners of private driving vehicles are now encouraged to join.

Shotgun man keeps woman hostage

By PAUL WILKINSON

AN ARMED man was last night holding a young woman hostage in a house more than 24 hours after her mother and a young man were shot and seriously injured in separate, but related, incidents in Co Durham.

Efforts by police negotiators to talk the 24-year-old man out of the house were going on, using a field telephone passed through an upper window.

The siege began on Sunday afternoon at a house in Darlington soon after the first shooting a few miles away on a minor road near the village of Stillington.

In that incident, Jason Ward, 20, from Darlington was wounded in the head by a single barrel shotgun. As police began dealing with the first shooting, other officers were called to a house in Lynette Road in Darlington after reports that a woman had been shot as she ran down the front path. Pauline Rees, 43, was taken to hospital with body wounds. She is said to be "satisfactory". Thirty officers, some armed, surrounded the gunman, sealing off the area and evacuating other houses.

The man was named locally as Keith Pringle and his captive as Leanne Rees, 21. Her two children were being looked after by relatives. Police said that the gunman was known to both the injured people and to the woman being held.

Youths pelt police with bricks

AN ATTACK on police breaking up an all-night party in a disused factory was condemned yesterday as "part of the malaise affecting our society" by the chairman of the Metropolitan Police Federation.

"You've got an undisciplined society, where young people take their lead from their elders," Mike Bennett said. "We are very concerned that this type of thing may take off. These parties are more likely from now on than they were during the winter, and you have a bored youth who find their thrills in taking on police officers."

He was speaking after police were pelted with bricks and bottles early yesterday while breaking up a party attended by 1,000 people in Acton Lane, Willesden, northwest London. Police moved in and made ten arrests after complaints about noise and damage to properties near by. One officer was taken to hospital with bruising but was not detained.

Mr Bennett said that under changes to policing in London, police numbers were being reduced at night. "They have researched when the public say they need us, and that is during the day, and less during the night. That will leave us short-handed when these things take place, which is a cause for concern."

Five men will appear before Brent magistrates today charged with committing violent disorder. Scotland Yard said. Three men will appear before Brent magistrates on June 2, on charges of obstructing police, assault on police and possession of cannabis, and another two men will appear before Baling magistrates on April 27.

Pong cleared for take-off

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

SHOULD passengers detect a whiff of garlic in the cabin of British Airways Boeing 737 G-BKJY booked to fly domestic shuttle routes from Heathrow today they should look to fellow travellers for the cause and not the airline.

No aircraft has been so well cleaned, deodorised and disinfected as G-BKJY and BA is confident that only the malodorous effects of someone's bank holiday indulgence will prevent it from having the most sweet smelling of take-offs. Not that the airline could have said the same last week when the jet reeked from every nook and cranny of 25 litres of concentrated garlic essence.

The plastic drum of garlic, which when diluted makes more than 1,000 litres of food additive, split as it was being unloaded from the aircraft's rear cargo compartment after being flown

in from Hamburg. Within seconds, workers were forced to leave the area as the pungent smell contaminated not only the aircraft but the entire hangar in which it was parked.

The jet was towed to a maintenance area at Heathrow and subjected to no less than 12 different steam cleaning treatments, all to no avail. A Boeing 737 is a costly piece of equipment to keep idle and as successive attempts to deodorise the aircraft failed, BA became ever more desperate to put it back into revenue earning service.

Then someone remembered Ben Matty whose tiny firm in Petworth, West Sussex, claimed to have removed all traces of contamination from Laker Airways jets when the cabin crew began to fall mysteriously ill, from the cruise ship Canberra and from several London hospitals. "When

we got to Heathrow we found a very smelly aircraft indeed," said Mr Matty whose company, Shield Hygiene Paper and Chemical International, has developed a non-toxic cleaning agent called BVD.

"We fed it into their high pressure cleaning machines, into the air conditioning unit and into any other hidden part where we thought the smell might be lingering," Mr Matty said. After two treatments there was no trace of the garlic smell. The seats were put back and G-BKJY was ready to be restored to service.

"It must be the cleanest aircraft flying anywhere in the world," a spokesman for BA said. "We are just grateful for BVD." BVD stands for bacterial virucidal disinfectant and Mr Matty is now predicting a surge in interest in his product — perhaps with Air France leading the way.

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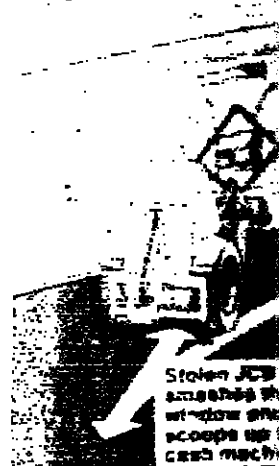


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Muggers murder father

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The Sept. 1968 *Playboy*, Arnold said, said that "I think you would assign women the degree of violence used was horrendous. For the sake of a second-hand dinner jacket, someone was prepared to murder me and attempt to murder another. The number would suggest that there was no other intention than to kill both men."

He said that the Walkers Road and Sinnergen Road areas of Wabash, where the attack took place at 9:45 p.m., would have been busy and appealed for witnesses come forward.

He told the dead man, who made no attempt to fight back, managed to run only a few yards when he was overtaken by the gang, knocked the ground and stabbed with a 5-in. knife. Detectives are still looking for the weapon.

Mr. Carter had two daughters, aged one month and two years. He was separated from his girl friend and lived alone in a flat in Walsall.

Yesterday Mr. Walker was sitting up and out of danger at Walsall Manor hospital.

Ponies

BY ALISON BROWN

THE Exmoor pony, the rarest native breed of ponies, is being saved by government conservationists that could finally ensure its resilience. Some of the

The ministry emphasised that the scheme would be But the society's secretary Mansell, claimed that the be paid until all the

Rugby? Well, no.

The success to which we refer has been achieved in a different field in Coventry.

Peugeot in the UK has just won the Queen's Award for Export. Over the past three years, despite the recession, more than 200,000 Peugeot 405s have been sent from Coventry to thirty-four countries around the world.

(Notably to France - yes, France! - Germany, Japan, Belgium, Spain and Italy)



**THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR
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1992**



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Exports have increased tenfold over the last six years.

Of course, this is by no means the first award the 405 has won. On its launch, it was voted European Car of the Year.

A string of other accolades followed, the most recent being earlier this year when a 405 was voted Supreme Champion by 'Buying Cars' magazine.

Today, it is among the top ten best-selling cars in the UK. And the diesel version is Britain's best-selling diesel car.

But the Queen's Award has to be, to borrow a phrase, our crowning achievement.

High cost of reform forces rethink over single-tier councils

By Douglas Broom, Local Government Correspondent

PLANS to reorganise local government in England might be shelved as ministers attempt to control public spending.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, has told advisers that the cost of full-scale reform may be too high and has indicated that he is considering a much more limited plan involving about a dozen big cities.

His predecessor, Michael Heseltine, had an uphill struggle to persuade his cabinet colleagues of the merits of replacing county and district councils with a single tier of all-purpose authorities.

Senior colleagues, including Chris Patten, the Conservative party chairman, opposed the reform plan, which

emerged from Mr Heseltine's search for a replacement for the community charge. Mr Heseltine, now trade and industry secretary, won the cabinet battle and the Local Government Act, which gained Royal Assent shortly before the election, created a new local government commission with powers to create unitary authorities. Mr Heseltine expected the commission to create new unitary authorities in almost every part of England except London and the metropolitan areas where they already exist.

Sir John Banham, director general of the CBI who was named as chairman of the commission last November has, however, said that his guiding principle will be: "If

it ain't broke don't fix it." Mr Howard, who took over the environment department last week, has made it clear that he shares Sir John's view and that he has yet to be convinced of the merits of a wholesale reorganisation. He believes the costs, both in terms of money and disruption, may be too great at a time when ministers are trying to curb public spending.

He has suggested giving unitary status to the larger cities which are not already all-purpose metropolitan authorities. Among the names being discussed are Bristol, Derby, Hull, Leicester, Nottingham, Norwich, Oxford, Peterborough, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Stoke on Trent, York, and possibly Warrington.

Such a limited reform would, in effect, recreate the old county boroughs by giving the existing district councils in each city control of services such as education and social services, which passed to the county councils in 1974.

Mr Howard wants to talk to local authority leaders before making a final decision. His views are likely to upset the district councils, which have campaigned for the abolition of the counties. The government will risk attacks from Conservative councillors across the country if it disappoints those hopes.

Mr Howard's limited proposals would still achieve the ambition of removing unpopular counties such as Avon and Humberside. Whatever the eventual form of the new structure, Bristol, with 374,000 people one of the largest boroughs in Britain, seems certain to regain its municipal independence.

Mr Howard's decision will not affect Wales, where David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, has promised to create of 23 unitary authorities to replace all eight county and 37 district councils.

Howard to lose inner-cities role

By John Lewis and Sheila Gunn

MICHAEL Howard, the new environment secretary, is to lose a substantial part of his inner-cities portfolio under the government's shake-up of urban renewal policy.

The decision to shift most of the responsibility for inner cities to the new urban regeneration agency, under Peter Walker, deprives Mr Howard of a big portion of his budget.

One of Mr Howard's first jobs in the new Parliament will be to introduce legislation to set up the agency, which he has worked on for nine months. The mass transfer of responsibilities to Mr Walker will be regarded as Westminster as a blow for Tory right-wingers such as Mr Howard and John Redwood, his minister with day-to-day responsibility for inner cities. During the election campaign, John Major and his ministers played up plans for an agency to bring together

different strands of policies for derelict areas.

For Mr Walker, who retired from the Commons at the election, the agency's wide remit hands him the prospect of expanding the policies he carried out in Wales into England. Under his stewardship, Wales attracted more than 20 per cent of Britain's inward investment, although it accounted for only 5 per cent of the population.

Besides having responsibility for acquiring and redeveloping derelict land in inner cities, Mr Walker will take over control of the urban development corporations. He will look for foreign companies and entrepreneurs to invest in deprived areas.

Mr Heseltine, who sees the agency as an engine for social change, described it as the "next logical and major step in a very exciting programme for urban regeneration".



Floral tribute: visitors to the French quarter of New Orleans add their flowers to gifts and messages placed at the point where the British tourist Julie Stott, 27, was shot dead by a mugger last week. Robert "Peanut" Jones, 19, has been charged with her murder

Short levels in semi-final

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

NIGEL Short has levelled the scores in his world chess championship semi-final against Anatoly Karpov in Linares, Spain. He took 15 moves to capitalise on his advantage in the adjourned fourth game.

In the fifth game, which was also adjourned, Short had a one-pawn advantage, but could not turn it to victory. The match is level at 2½ points each.

The moves in Game 4, with Short playing white, were:

White Black
1 e4 e5
2 d4 d5
3 Nf3 Nf6
4 Bg5 Be7
5 e5 dxe4
6 Nxe4 Nf6
7 d5 Nd7
8 c4 c6
9 Nc3 Nc6
10 Bb5 Bb7
11 Bxc6 Bxc6
12 Bb5 Bb7
13 Re1 Re8
14 Bf1 Bf8
15 Rxe4 Rxe4
16 Rxe4 Rxe4
17 Rxe4 Rxe4
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White Black
1 e4 e5
2 d4 d5
3 Nf3 Nf6
4 Bg5 Be7
5 e5 dxe4
6 Nxe4 Nf6
7 d5 Nd7
8 c4 c6
9 Nc3 Nc6
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100 Rxe4 Rxe4

The moves in Game 5, with Karpov playing white, were:

White Black
1 e4 e5
2 d4 d5
3 Nf3 Nf6
4 Bg5 Be7
5 e5 dxe4
6 Nxe4 Nf6
7 d5 Nd7
8 c4 c6
9 Nc3 Nc6
10 Bb5 Bb7
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Latter-day Doolittle struggles to survive

By John Young

ALL you need is a little bit of luck to find yourself on easy street. So sang Alfred Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. Nowadays Doolittle, a coalman, would need more than luck not to find himself on the dole, according to a survey by the Coal Merchants' Federation.

More than half of 2,000 people questioned had not seen a coalman within the past year — although there are still 10,000 of them — and more than a fifth, mostly young, said that they did not know how to light a fire. The highest proportion of coal fires is in Scotland, and the lowest in London, although more people in the South would like to have a fire.

Nearly three million homes have open fireplaces. In more than eight million they have been blocked up.

More than half of those interviewed thought that coal supplies were running out or did not know. In fact, the federation says, world coal resources are greater than those of any other fuel. Supplies in the United Kingdom will last for 300 years, whereas those of oil will be past their peak by the end of the century.

The federation also suggests that coal fires are healthier than gas or oil fired central heating, because they reduce condensation in the home and ensure adequate ventilation.



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We've taken What Car? magazine's 'Executive Car of the Year,' the 16 valve 900CS 2.0, and added our Light Pressure Turbo. This, our latest innovation in turbo engines, includes automatic performance control, direct ignition and catalyst as standard.

A smooth surge of power means that high-speed overtaking or town driving are just as effortless.

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Name

Address

Postcode

Present Car Make & Model

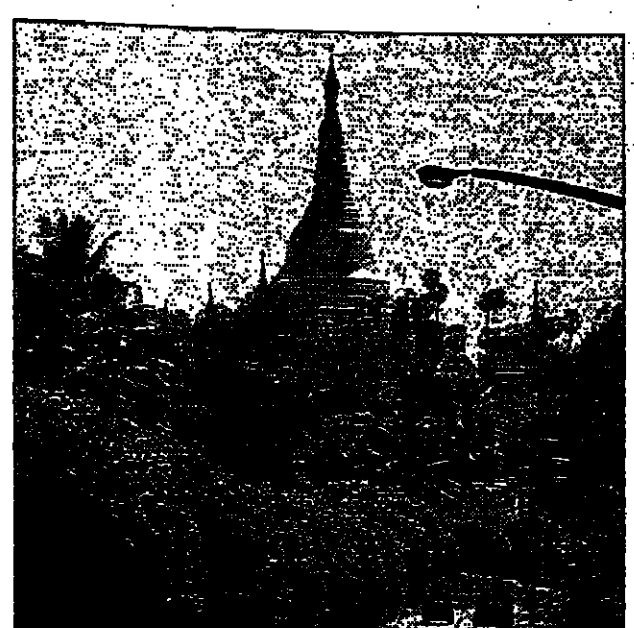
Year of Reg.

Age of driver



AIRCRAFT INSPIRED.

Rangoon awakes from a 50-year sleep to discover blue jeans



Changing ways: among Buddhist pagodas signs of modernism are seen on Rangoon's streets

ON THE descent to Burma's capital, Rangoon, the airline stewardess was reputed to say: "Please adjust your watch to local time - 30 years backwards."

The joke no longer holds true. Martial law is changing the city quickly. Burma has opened up to foreign investment and tourists and the road from the airport is a new six-lane highway. The old British colonial buildings are being repainted and the graceful Strand Hotel, once a romantic stop on the tourist's schedule, is being refurbished. Billboards advertise American Express and Visa credit cards.

The consumer society has reached Rangoon and goods imported from Thailand and China are stacked up in the stores. Blue jeans, once a scarce item, hang rack upon rack in the night markets.

Since the takeover by the military in 1988, Burma's capital has doubled in size and embraced the market economy, Abby Tan writes from Rangoon

"Rangoon was asleep for 50 years," says one city official. The mayor is Colonel Ko Lay, 53, a former paratrooper. Since the military junta took power in 1988, Rangoon has expanded from 113 to 225 square miles, mainly because of five new satellite towns built to resettle the city's half-million squatters. The army has mobilised "voluntary" brigades of able-bodied men to clean the city and build roads.

Speaking in a city auditorium of gilt ceilings and pink columns, the mayor told a fund-raising ceremony why he needed 30 million kyats (\$2.6 million at the official rate) for a two-week national sports festival beginning on May 3: £1 is worth 12.5 kyats at the official rate of exchange but fetches 155 on the black market. Actresses and pop singers came to pledge their support and have their pictures taken with the mayor. Donations, the mayor says, are a Burmese way of life - a reference to the tradition of donating food to the Buddhist monks.

Rangoon is learning from Singapore, another Asian city that thrived under authoritarian rule. Some of the Rangoon projects are clearly only for show, but the standard of living has improved.

Khin Kyi Htay, a civil engineer, works for a foreign businessman, and has bought a new Japanese car. Like many middle-class Burmese, she claims up on the subject of politics. Asked if she is bothered by the lack of democracy, she replied: "I don't like politics. I don't read newspapers." Asked how she felt when the pro-democracy movement was crushed by the army in 1988, she replied: "I pray to the Lord Buddha for peace and tranquillity."

On the outskirts of Rangoon the new satellite towns tell a different story. The red clay road into one of them, Dagon township, is desolate. Some houses are wood structures on stilts with palm leaf roofs. Others are tiled, like square concrete boxes painted in loud colours. "Hopeless town" is the message scrawled in English on a new concrete bridge.

The paradox is that although Burma moved towards a free market economy in 1988, these townships practise the very tenets of socialism the government is trying to leave behind. The Burmese here are heavily subsidised. Water, electricity and medical care are free, and building materials are subsidised.

Settlers have mixed feelings about the townships. Than Nu, a widow aged 50, said she borrowed 3,500 kyats to buy a 40ft by 60ft plot of land. The price is equivalent to about £300 at the official exchange rate but £25 at the black market rate. "Now that I am the owner of my house I am happy," she said. Her three sons, who work in a restaurant in central Rangoon, get free transport, and all residents of Dagon travel to the capital to work.

But there are unhappy settlers too. Thein Nyunt, 36, was given a plot of land far from the main road, shook his head and complained: "The government ordered me here. I am happy. We have no electricity and no water." Corrugated iron sheets are his temporary walls in a one-room house which he shares with his wife and four grown-up children and two grandchildren.

Mayor Ko Lay said construction of the township took 10 per cent of the national budget. No one knows for sure the size of the subsidies but the public sector deficit in 1991 was close to 14 per cent of gross domestic product. The subsidies are likely to stay, if only because the junta fears unrest if they are lifted.

Court overturns stay of killer's execution

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

LEGAL attempts to win a reprieve for Robert Alton Harris continued last night, up to the moment that the convicted killer was being prepared for the gas chamber at California's San Quentin prison.

Harris, sentenced to death for killing two San Diego teenagers in 1978, had hoped on Easter Sunday that he would escape the gas chamber after a federal judge granted a ten-day stay of execution. But yesterday, a three-judge appellate court overturned the order, allowing the execution to be carried out on schedule at one minute past midnight local time today, or 8am BST.

Lawyers for Harris and the American Civil Liberties Union were looking for ways in the hours leading up to his execution to plead the case before the US Supreme Court. The union is anxious to prevent Harris from becoming the first man to be executed in California in a quarter of a century. Opponents of capital punishment fear that if the state resumes executions, others which have refrained from carrying out the death penalty will follow.

The ten-day order, issued by Judge Marilyn Hall Patel on Saturday, surprised legal experts. The judge's order came in response to a civil liberties lawsuit on behalf of Harris and more than 300 other inmates on California's death row. The argument, that the use of lethal gas was "cruel and unusual punishment", was seen by legal observers as a futile, last-ditch attempt to save Harris after a 13-year campaign through state and federal court appeals to stop his execution.

"We presented overwhelming evidence to Judge Patel that the use of lethal gas was

barbarous and tortuous," Michael Laurence, Harris's lawyer, said. "This whole case is about the method of death. It does not set anyone free. It does not change anyone's sentence."

Supporters of the death penalty yesterday accused Judge Patel of being swayed by personal views. Judge Patel is a former board member of the civil liberties union. The reasons why the 9th District Court of Appeals overturned Judge Patel's order were not clear yesterday. Details of the court's decision were not immediately available.

If the temporary restraining order had stood, the state would have been forced to ask for another death warrant from the courts, a process that would have taken 40 days.

Harris, 39, was sentenced in 1979. Accompanied by his brother, Harris kidnapped two boys from a fast-food restaurant, drove them in their car to a secluded spot, shot them at point-blank range, finished their hamburgers and then went on to rob a bank.

Protests continued yesterday outside San Quentin and in San Francisco's Marina Green Park where demonstrators draped themselves with cardboard tombstones bearing the names of the 502 people executed in California since 1893.

Maryland, Arizona, Mississippi and North Carolina still officially use lethal gas for executions. However, Maryland has not had an execution since 1961 and Arizona has begun the legislative process to change its method of carrying out the death penalty.

Harris's lawyers have filed 20 appeals over the 13 years their client has been on death row. Their grounds have ranged from arguing that the original jury did not realise he is mentally impaired to claiming that his brother took a greater role in the shootings.

US mayor invites clash on abortion

BY JAMIE DETTMER

MAYORS usually are keen to prevent confrontation on their city streets. James Griffin, the mayor of Buffalo, is different. His invitation to a fundamentalist pro-life group to visit his city led to predictable and ugly clashes yesterday outside Buffalo's three abortion clinics.

Obscenities were hurled between pro-life and pro-choice demonstrators as members of Operation Rescue, an anti-abortion group attempted to blockade the clinics. Leaders on both sides of the abortion debate promised non-violent demonstrations, but few believed that Buffalo would avoid what happened to Wichita, Kansas, last year when Operation Rescue came to town.

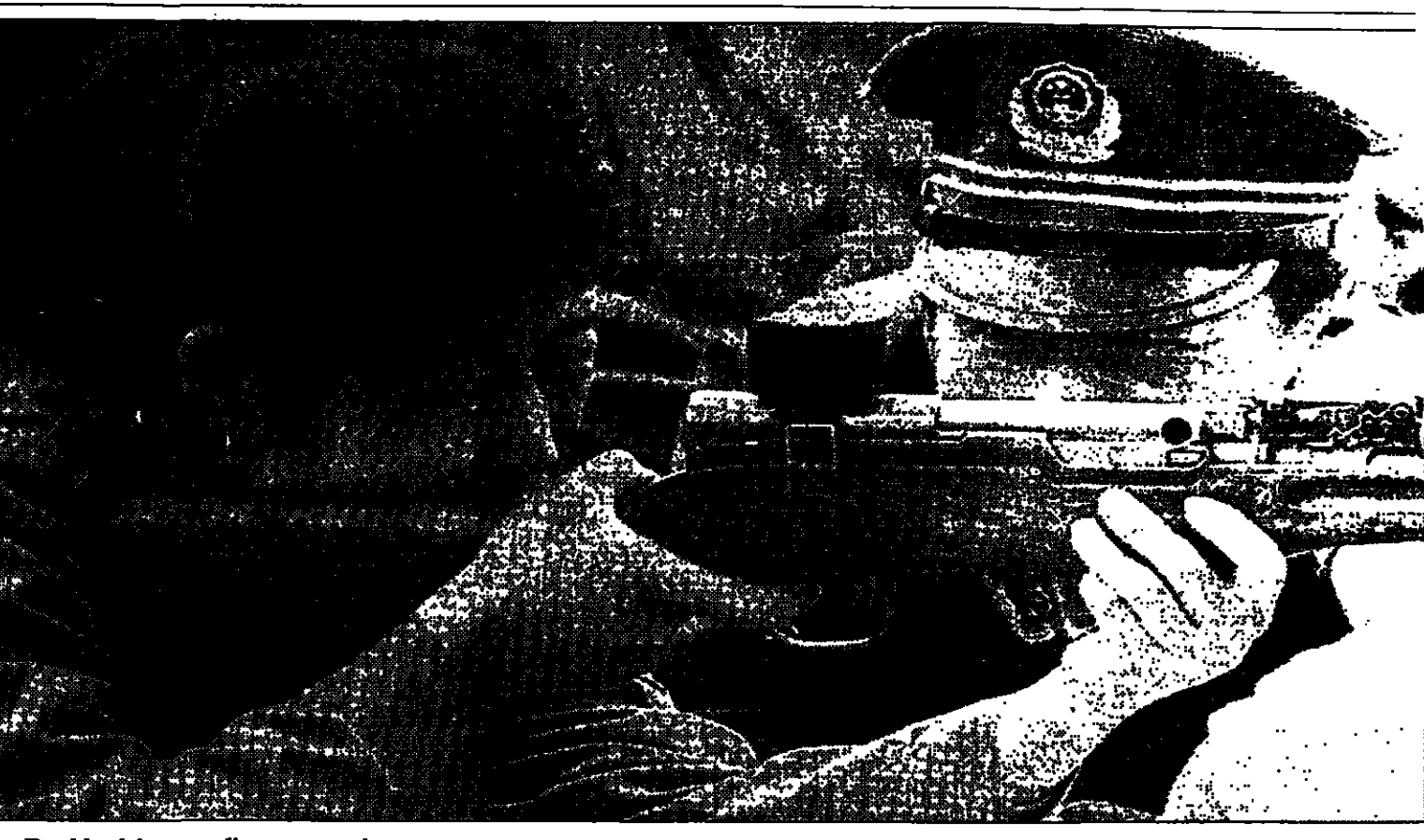
During the six-week protests in Wichita, police made more than 2,000 arrests and the city had to fork out nearly \$500,000 (£287,000) on police overtime pay. Yesterday in Buffalo, about 300 abortion rights demonstrators gathered before dawn outside one of the city's clinics in readiness for the start of Operation Rescue's four-week protest.

Most of the 328,000 residents of Buffalo, an economically-depressed, predominantly Roman Catholic city, have been bracing themselves for the last few weeks for the expected disruption. Both pro-life and pro-choice groups announced that they would make Buffalo a showcase, a replay of Wichita.

Allison Jones, a spokeswoman for the pro-choice Planned Parenthood organisation, warned that they would encourage "thousands of troops" to defend the Buffalo clinics. "We won't have Buffalo as a place where choice is not defended," Karen Swallow of Operation Rescue said they planned to put doctors who perform abortions out of business.

Mr Griffin, who has been mayor since 1978, is fervently anti-abortion. "If Operation Rescue wants to come into our city, fine," he says defiantly.

The city's council is less than pleased. By 12 to one it declared Operation Rescue was not welcome. With the city budget running at \$18 million deficit, the councilors argued that there was no money to spare for extra policing.



Double vision: a policeman watches a young woman worker taking aim during rifle practice in central Peking yesterday. Apart from the very young and the very old, all Chinese citizens are required to undergo compulsory military training at least once in their lives

UN chief appeals for aid to ease Cambodia's suffering

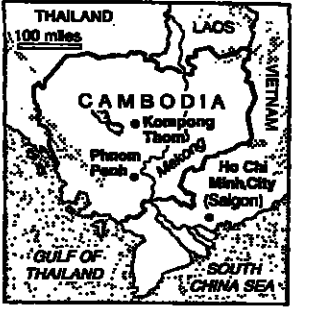
FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH

BOUTROS Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, yesterday appealed for \$593 million (£340 million) to alleviate suffering and to help rebuild Cambodia. He again expressed optimism over the prospects for peace and a settlement of the conflict.

Dr Boutros Ghali was ending a three-day visit to inspect the world body's ambitious peacekeeping operation. He said funds were needed "to help this beleaguered nation recover from more than two decades of conflict and suffering". The cash, he added, would also ensure that the political process which had put Cambodia on the road to democracy would not be compromised.

Sitting next to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of Cambodia's Supreme National Council, the UN-mandated reconciliation body linking the four Cambodian factions, Dr Boutros Ghali said the funds would pay for food, health services, shelter, education, training and the restoration of the basic infrastructure and public utilities.

Some money would go towards repatriating 370,000 refugees now in camps along the Thai-Cambodian border. The repatriation process, which began late last month, is part of the accords signed last October in Paris. The UN



rule from 1975-9 up to a million Cambodians died, have been called the world's worst violators of such rights. Dr Boutros Ghali said that by signing the covenants the parties showed "their willingness to overcome the serious mistakes of the past".

He said: "I believe there is a political will for national reconciliation and the reconstruction of the country. And I believe Prince Sihanouk's wisdom and leadership will help us overcome all difficulties." UN officials privately concede that there are still great problems to be solved.

Dr Boutros Ghali later left for Thailand, on the third stage of a four-nation Asian tour, including China.

● MIA talks: Five American senators held talks yesterday with Cambodian officials to assess progress in resolving the issue of Americans listed as missing in action from the Vietnam war which ended 17 years ago. The members of the Senate select committee on POW/MIA affairs arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday morning, led by John Kerry, the chairman.

Senator Kerry said that his group had held productive talks with Hun Sen, the prime minister, interior ministry officials and diplomats. The delegation will travel to Vietnam today and later visit Laos to seek more co-operation in accounting for more than 2,000 US servicemen missing since 1975. (AP)

Kim's grand design fails to scale the socialist heights

David Watts writes from Pyongyang on the limits to gigantism in a city where one may peruse 37 volumes by the Great Leader in comparative peace

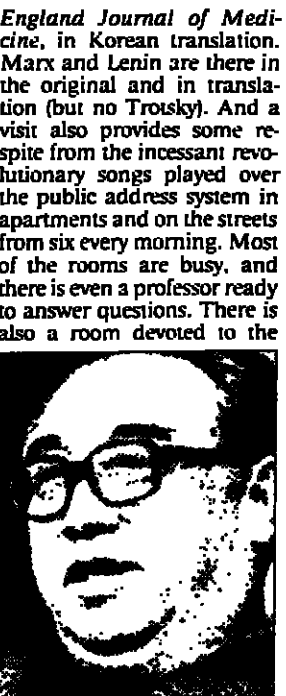
TOWERING over President Kim Il Sung's North Korean capital is a 105-storey pyramid-shaped hotel. Pyongyang also has an Arch of Triumph, one metre higher than the Parisian original, and what is said to be the world's tallest stone tower, symbolising Mr Kim's nationalist, just-theory of independence.

The magnificent new hotel owes its inspiration not to Mr Kim, but to the son of the "Great Leader", Kim Jong Il, known as the "Dear Leader". As you draw near to examine this new triumph of socialism, you notice that it is unfinished and has clearly been so for some time. It is rumoured that no company in existence could supply the necessary lifts because the structure could not support their weight at the apex.

But there could be another problem. The funds for the project were put up by a Macau businessman. At the foot of the hotel, he seems to have planned to make serious money by installing a massage parlour of suitably heroic proportions. At first everyone went along with the idea, not least, apparently, the Dear Leader, who is said to have an eye for the ladies. But when the scale of the plans became clear, there were second thoughts. Not for our businessman the occasional tired Japanese salaryman popping in after negotiating barter deals, but plane-loads of them flown in from Japan on Saturday and dispatched back home on Sunday. Even the less austere cadres were not quite ready for that, given that Kim pere's career has been built upon the myth that he drove the Japanese imperial army from Manchuria almost single-handed.

The capital already has more sober attractions. For North Koreans with time to spare between work and the next indoctrination session, Pyongyang offers the Grand People's Study House. A massive pile in the classic Korean style of architecture, it boasts 600 rooms and 30 million books, or so the official guides claim.

Available from the more than 160 miles of shelves is the latest issue of *The New*



Kim Il Sung: career built on war record

study of the works of the "Great Leader", with volume 37 hot off the press. When I looked in, it was deserted.

President Kim has just celebrated his 80th birthday, and everyone was expected to bring a present to the party. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Cambodian leader, brought a silver bowl and showed a film he had made back home. President Museveni of Uganda brought some African tribal artifacts which left Mr Kim rather puzzled.

A BBC man proffered a corporation T-shirt. Unsure of its ideological appropriateness, he found, slightly to his surprise, that it was accepted only to be returned because it wasn't properly wrapped.

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by James Bone

Battered husbands find a refuge

Battered husbands in America will soon have a place to seek sanctuary from their domineering wives. A men's rights group in St Paul, Minnesota, is planning to set up the nation's first shelter for battered husbands.

Buoyed by statistics that show that women are just as likely to beat up their husbands as men are to assault their wives, the Domestic Rights Coalition argues that there should be sexual equality in the provision of shelters. "Hey, men, if you are being slapped, kicked or punched, that's illegal and you don't have to take it anymore," George Gilliland, the group's founder, proclaimed in *The New York Times*.

Feminists argue that men

are just bigger and tougher than women and so less likely to get hurt, but members of the burgeoning men's movement cite a 1985 study of 6,000 couples which asked each partner how often they resorted to violence and intimidation. Women were slightly more likely than men to have slapped, kicked, bitten or punched their nearest and dearest.

Women were also more likely to have threatened their partner with a knife or gun. Men were slightly more likely to have beaten up their spouses or choked them. Both sexes were equally likely to have used a gun or knife on a partner.

As if to prove men's point, a California woman has been arrested for setting her cancer-ridden

husband on fire because he ate a chocolate Easter bunny she wanted. June Carter, 69, said in an interview from jail that she just snapped after 35 years of caring for her husband, Paul, 62, who has been suffering from lung cancer for the past four years and can barely walk. She had to change his nappies regularly and could barely sleep at night because he watched television constantly.

Jailed because she could not raise bail, she said she only meant to scare her husband when she splashed a teaspoonful of rubbing alcohol over him. "I had matches in my hand," she said. "It just went up. I really didn't mean to do it."

Mr Carter was admitted to hospital with third-degree

burns over 30 per cent of his body. "I'd rather go back with him," Mrs Carter said. "I happen to be in love with him."

Even George Bush is showing signs these days of living in fear of the apparently amiable Barbara. Taking a walk on a beach near his holiday home in Maine, President Bush confided in Desert Storm lingo that he was "trying to avoid Barbara Bush's first strike zone". He was objecting to Barbara's efforts to fix up their home at Walker's Point after it was damaged severely by a storm last October. "She puts you to work, moving furniture," Mr Bush complained, with the same vehemence he showed when he disavowed broccoli last year.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE CHANGE

The Society hereby gives notice that the rate of interest charged on existing mortgages applying to wholly owner occupied properties will be reduced by 0.50% gross per annum from 4th May 1992.

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Syria's failure to defy UN sanctions exposes Arab splits

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

PIRIA, rapidly re-emerging as a leader of the radical Arab world, was foiled yesterday by low Arabs and others in its attempt to fly the first United Nations sanctions-breaking flight to Libya.

The failure of the much-anticipated Syrian flight to materialise came as a severe blow to the Libyan regime, increasing its international isolation. It coincided with an announcement from Tripoli that the few Western journalists there must leave and all others working for Western news organisations must cease reporting.

The action against journalists prompted renewed diplomatic speculation that Colonel Muammar Gaddafi was

encountering divisions inside his regime about the handling of the dispute over the two Libyans allegedly involved in the Lockerbie bombing. The Egyptian media have carried a number of reports claiming that Colonel Gaddafi is being upstaged by his hardline deputy, Major Abdel-Salam Jalloud. The reports said the major was preventing the Libyan leader from implementing any compromise over the two agents suspected of blowing up the Pan Am jumbo in 1988.

The enforced grounding of the scheduled flight from Damascus to Tripoli was caused by the refusal of Cyprus, Greece, Egypt and Tunisia to give the plane, the first publi-

cised attempt to break sanctions, the necessary overflying permission. An official of Syrian Arab Airlines claimed that it would continue to try to obtain permission to fly to Libya. But Arab diplomatic sources said that was unlikely to be granted.

Instead of demonstrating Arab unity, as intended, the attempted flight had proved a public relations disaster, highlighting that members of the 21-strong Arab League (to which Syria and Libya both belong) disagree over the sanctions. An editorial in the Libyan daily *Al-Fajr al-Jadid*, which claimed that the proposed flight was "internal", had a hollow ring. "The Arab nation is one [entity] and flights between its countries are in fact domestic flights which necessitate no interference from international bodies," the paper argued in vain. Last week Egypt rebuffed a Libyan suggestion that the two countries should merge in another attempted way round the sanctions.

As the Syrian plane was failing to make its planned take-off from Damascus, President Assad of Syria was continuing an emergency tour of the oil-rich Gulf states intended to whip up support for Libya from their conservative leaders and to win backing against any future such UN moves against Syria.

Intelligence sources said Mr Assad was disturbed by efforts in the Western media to lay part of the blame for Lockerbie at Syria's door and believed that the Gulf states, led by Saudi Arabia, carried diplomatic weight in Washington. One Gulf-based diplomat said that Mr Assad's view was "Today Libya, tomorrow Syria". He added that Mr Assad was attempting to secure diplomatic returns for the anti-Iraq coalition during the 1991 Gulf war.

In Damascus, the ruling party's paper *Al-Baath* urged Arabs to unify to confront "the big dangers that followed the establishment of a new world order". The paper added: "Most of what is taking place in the world of today seems to be directed against the Arabs more than others."

Libya's isolation was increased when Middle East Airlines, the national carrier of Lebanon, a country under Syrian influence, announced that it had suspended its weekly flight from Beirut to Tripoli because of problems in obtaining insurance. Critics said those problems gave Arab countries not wishing to offend Libya a convenient way of abiding by the sanctions while appearing not willing to do so.



Business as usual: a Palestinian businessman and an orthodox Jew shake on a deal in Hebron yesterday near the Cave of the Patriarchs, a holy site visited by hundreds of Jews during the Passover holiday

Border squabbles fuel Gulf tension

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

THE release yesterday of Ali Kafaidei, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Yemen, after being held by a Yemeni gunman for 19 hours in his office in the capital, Sanaa, is the latest of a series of potentially explosive border disputes plaguing the Gulf.

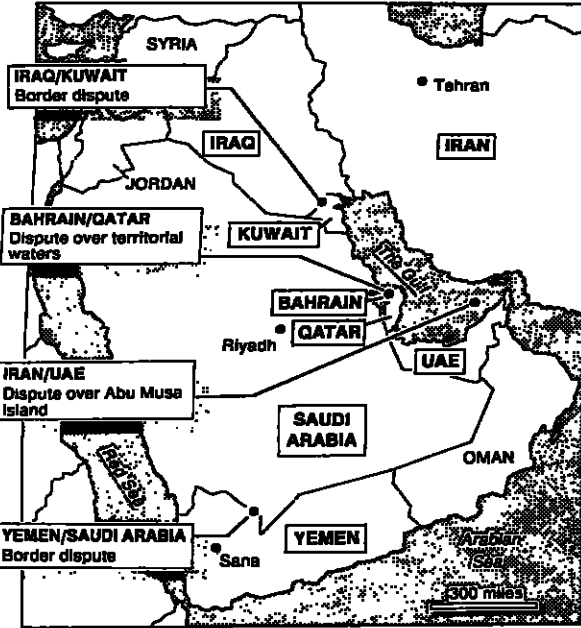
Although the stated motive for the hold-up was a ransom of \$1 million (£600,000), Mr Kafaidei said the gunman claimed to need the cash for an unidentified group. Yemen, which angered the Saudis by backing Iraq, sent in a squad of commandos, one of whom, disguised as a waiter, threw a cup of scalding tea into the gunman's face.

A long-running border dispute between the two nations has been revived this month.

Others have emerged between Bahrain and Qatar and between Iran and the United Arab Emirates. A United Nations border commission last week foreshadowed yet another by giving Kuwait several Iraqi oil wells.

Tension between Saudi Arabia and Yemen increased when the Saudis warned two Western oil companies against drilling in a Yemeni-controlled region claimed by Saudi Arabia, which last year expelled a million Yemeni workers and cut aid.

Iran last week denied that it had expelled hundreds of UAE citizens from the once-disputed Gulf island of Abu Musa which it administers jointly with Sharjah, a sheikhdom within the UAE.



Israel to reopen rebellious university on West Bank

Classes will resume soon at Bir Zeit campus, a centre of Palestinian resistance, writes Richard Beeston

BIR Zeit University on the West Bank, for 20 years a focus of resistance to the Israeli occupation, will be allowed to reopen this month, after Israeli military authorities lifted a four-year ban on the campus yesterday.

In a surprise announcement, Moshe Arens, the defence minister, said that some classes would be allowed to resume on condition that the university authorities bore responsibility for ensuring that the campus did not become a "focal point of violence".

Albert Aghazarian, the university's spokesman, said that two of the four faculties, engineering and science, would reopen for about half the student body on April 29 on a probationary basis. "We are not euphoric, but it is a step in the right direction," he said.

"We will be under close observation from the army and we will have to endure this absurd Kafkaesque routine until they are satisfied and allow us to reopen the arts and business faculties. However, we are convinced that the students are eager to resume studies and will avoid any unnecessary confrontations."

The move was seen partly as a reaction to the decline in

number of intifada-related incidents and as a possible attempt by the government of Yitzhak Shamir to improve the climate before next week's moribund Middle East peace talks due to open in Washington. The stalled negotiations are likely to be the last before the Israeli general elections on June 23, when Mr Shamir, the prime minister, will be under pressure from the electorate to prove that some benefit has come of the six-month dialogue with the Arabs.

Although the government move is expected to be welcomed in the West, it drew predictable criticism from far-right Israeli politicians, such as the leader of the Mokedet party, Rehavam Zeevi, who said: "The university, like others in the territories, is nothing but an ulpan [school] for terrorism out of

which come those who have graduated in the murder and killing of Jews."

Bir Zeit, the most prestigious Palestinian academic institution, was a magnet for anti-Israeli activity long before the authorities closed it down by military order on January 8, 1988, a month after the intifada began.

Located in the picturesque hills of the West Bank, north of Jerusalem, the university first won its radical reputation in November 1974 when its president, Hanna Nasir, was deported by the Israeli authorities. In subsequent years both the faculty and the student body were involved in regular confrontations with the army.

Even when the university was closed, and classes for most of the 2,600 students were moved to off-campus facilities in nearby Ramallah, the college still maintained its political credentials within the Palestinian community. When the Middle East peace talks opened in Madrid, for instance, five members of the Palestinian delegation were Bir Zeit professors, most notably Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman and a professor of English.

Sharansky to contest election

BY RICHARD BEESTON

SOFT-SPOKEN Natan Sharansky, the former Soviet refusenik and now a potential candidate in Israel's general elections, has the knack of infuriating those in power.

After nine years in the Soviet gulags as a prisoner of conscience fighting for the right of Jews to emigrate, Israel's most prominent Russian immigrant has turned his guns on the political establishment in Israel, threatening to launch a new party.

Although Mr Sharansky previously has refused to enter politics, declining offers from Likud, Labour and the new Soviet immigrant party, Da, he has declared that he will run in the June 23 election in desperation at what he regards as the bankrupt policies of the main parties.

"He wants to fight the election by putting what he sees as the main issues up front, namely the importance of completing the immigration of Russian Jewry and the need to get the Israeli economy working," said his spokeswoman.

Ousted leader can leave Kabul

Kabul: Afghan guerrillas claimed yesterday to control all key cities apart from Kabul as the ousted president, Muhammad Najibullah, prepared to fly out of the country.

The embattled government had agreed in talks with a United Nations envoy to allow Dr Najibullah, deposed last Thursday, to leave and he was likely to fly out later yesterday.

All over the country government forces appeared to be giving up without a fight, preferring to strike a deal with the advancing Mujahidin guerrillas rather than risk a bloodbath.

Officials in Kabul said that the crucial city of Jalalabad — eastern gateway to the capital — was still in government hands, but its commander was negotiating the formation of a coalition with the rebels. A spokesman in the ruling Watan party said that General Afzal Ladin, the garrison commander in Jalalabad, 90 miles east of Kabul, was leading the talks.

Control of Kandahar in the south had already passed into the hands of a coalition of Mujahidin and the local commander. "There was no violence. The Mujahidin agreed not to take their weapons into the city. Kabul is no longer in control," the spokesman said.

The Kabul government, which is surrounded by Mujahidin and weakened by defections, has been forced to negotiate transfers of power in the main cities, but the government is hoping to maintain at least a measure of authority and some bargaining power. (Reuter)

Crew rescued

HONG KONG: A Royal Navy ship, HMS Plover, assisted in the rescue of 26 seamen after an explosion ripped through a 30,000-tonne Liberian-registered oil tanker, killing two of the crew in the South China Sea.

Lava slows

MOUNT ETNA: Stiff winds thwarted an attempt by helicopter-borne troops to plug an underground river of lava feeding a tide of molten rock down Mount Etna. But the flow of lava towards the town of Zafferana slowed. (Reuter)

Aid ban eased

NAIROBI: Sudan has eased a two-month ban on relief flights to the rebel-held south where an army offensive is under way, but rebels said people would still be left without food and many thousands face starvation. (AFP)

Leak plugged

CHICAGO: Engineers have plugged the leak in a century-old tunnel that flooded the basements of scores of buildings here, causing 200,000 people to be evacuated. (AFP)

Support grows for professional parliament

Deputies want congress laid to rest

NIKOLAI Podgornov, a Russian congress deputy from the northern town of Vologda and the chairman of his local council, left Moscow on Saturday to fend off a strike by agricultural workers at home and he has no intention of coming back. From Vologda, he said it was time that Russia had a professional parliament.

Congresses, he said, were a waste of time. Too many deputies attended to show off to their constituents — proceedings are broadcast on television — and fewer and fewer decisions were taken.

Rumblings in the lobby and even the occasional speech in the hall demonstrate that Mr Podgornov is not alone in his view that the Congress of People's Deputies as an institution has outlived its usefulness and should be laid to rest. Because of the powers vested in the congress and the balance of political forces in Russia, however, this is more easily said than done.

The Congress of People's Deputies is Russia's supreme legislative body, the only body authorised to change the constitution. The standing parliament, whose membership is rotated annually among deputies, does not have this right.

President Yeltsin, like Mikhail Gorbachev before him, has indicated repeatedly that he wants to enact reforms within the bounds of the constitution. The constitution in its present form does not give the president the right to dissolve congress. Unless he can per-

While some deputies consider congress to be a waste of time, it still determines Russia's future structure and reforms, Mary Dejevsky writes from Moscow

sue the congress to dissolve itself, Mr Yeltsin must continue to call, and heed, the congress — or encourage it to delegate its powers to the standing parliament.

Mr Yeltsin's reputation also requires him to act within the constitution. Abroad, though, to a far lesser extent at home, his democratic credentials have been suspect. Were he unilaterally to dissolve the congress and rule by decree, this would confirm people's worst suspi-

cions and halt much Western goodwill, as well as aid.

Some would argue that the deputies, who were elected two years ago, are no longer representative of opinion across the country. This may be true. Nonetheless, they were elected, and many have significant local powerbases. The position of Mr Yeltsin and his government is not so strong that he can ignore these local empires without risking his authority.

Finally, the questions

under discussion at this congress, the first since Russia became a fully independent state, are crucial issues of principle, which will determine Russia's future structure. They concern the power of the executive against the legislature, the power of the centre against the regions and the nature of the presidency.

As all sides appreciate, one tiny amendment in the hand of a wily drafter can change the balance of power in Russia at least until the next congress, and perhaps for good. That is why the congress has lasted 13 days already, and has at least one more day to go — and why Mr Podgornov might have done better to stay the course.



Songs of praise: Muscovites singing their support for President Yeltsin, who has been under attack from deputies at the people's congress

Fuel cost soars in Moscow

BY MARY DEJEVSKY

MOSCOW motorists were shocked to discover yesterday morning that prices of petrol and diesel fuel had quintupled overnight. Filling up the most common Lada car will now cost the unheard-of sum of 240 roubles.

Eduard Grushevenko, the Russian minister of fuel and energy, insisted that the price change should not be seen as an increase, but rather as an adjustment to compensate for increased production costs. He said he did not envisage the need for further rises.

The immediate decision to raise retail prices for petrol rests with the city council, which buys fuel in bulk from the producers and could choose to subsidise the cost if it had the money. Some cities raised petrol prices before Moscow, which gave them priority in supplies. Other regions now have little alternative but to fall into line.

While Moscow's drivers were complaining, petrol is still the cheapest aspect of motoring in Russia and cheap by international standards as well. A private car here is still a luxury. Even before retail prices were freed in January, few could afford a car.

Most had to buy second-hand cars on the unofficial market, at prices of 15,000 to 20,000 roubles for a Lada and more for other models. Cars therefore cost about 50 times the average monthly salary in Russia, compared with about five times in Britain. Petrol costs a fraction of what it does in Britain.

Yeltsin to reshuffle government

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW AND ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

PRESIDENT Yeltsin was preparing a further reorganisation of government and presidential structures yesterday to fulfil his half of the bargain struck earlier with the parliamentary opposition. He is expected to appoint a new prime minister within three months, cut his presidential staff and name a new deputy prime minister acceptable to parliament.

Mr Yeltsin outlined his proposals to leaders of parliamentary factions yesterday and is expected to announce details at the closing session of the Congress of People's Deputies, probably today. Opponents had condemned him for combining the posts of president and prime minister, arguing that this contravened the constitutional separation of powers. A resolution gave Mr Yeltsin three months to change the structure of the government, but a subsequent declaration appeared to allow him to retain the prime minister's post until December.

Mr Yeltsin may be gambling that the chief of the economic reform programme, Yegor Gaidar, the first deputy prime minister, will be strong enough by then to occupy the post in his own right. During the congress, Mr Gaidar has been a tireless defender of the controversial reforms and an opinion poll, in Moscow after the government had threatened to resign unless its reforms were continued, found that Mr Gaidar's popularity rating had risen ten points from 35 to 45 per cent since the start of the congress.

The promised cuts in the president's staff come in answer to criticism that the pow-

ers granted to Mr Yeltsin were being used less by the president than by his bloated apparatus, which is not subject to parliamentary control.

Those who had hoped to extend yesterday's congress discussion to include claims to the whole Black Sea fleet and the Crimea were disappointed. The chairman said it would not be wise to raise passions now, two days before talks are due to begin in Odessa.

In Kiev, President Krav-

chuk gave his bluntest warning yet to activists campaigning for an independence referendum in the Crimea, warning of "catastrophe" if the peninsula secedes from Ukraine. He called for Crimeans to ignore the powerful separatist movement. "The referendum will be a tragic way to split the Crimea. What this will lead to and what harm it can do no one can predict," he said.

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Pictures at an exposition: King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain inaugurated Expo '92, where balloons representing participant states were released. A demonstrator protesting over police action was arrested

Expo opening gives Spain reason to celebrate growth

FROM ROBERT HART IN SEVILLE

TO THE thunder of fireworks and the chiming of church bells across Seville, the Expo '92 world fair was formally opened yesterday by King Juan Carlos of Spain. Balloons with the flags of the 110 participating countries rose into the sky and 5,000 pigeons were released.

The universal exposition of Seville is the greatest exposition in history, not only in terms of size, but also in terms of the diversity and quality of activities," King Juan Carlos said.

Expo '92 is the first spectacular of Spain's 1992 celebrations to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's discovery of the New World. The Olympic Games in Barcelona in July and August will be the other big international event.

The opening ceremony took place in sunshine on newly-laid lawns outside a

restored 15th century monastery on the edge of the site on Seville's Cartuja island. Against a backdrop of futuristic canopies, domes and spires of pavilions built of steel, glass, bronze and wood, the king greeted Felipe Gonzalez, the prime minister, and his cabinet before reviewing a troop of the royal guard.

Some 10,000 police and 3,000 private security men were on duty in and around Seville and on the Expo site. Basque separatists have threatened to target Expo, but their attacks this year have been concentrated in Barcelona and Madrid.

Opponents of Spain's Columbus commemorations, who see 1492 as the start of centuries of colonialist repression, grappled with police at one of the gates to the site during the ceremony. On Sunday night at least three people were injured in central

Seville when, according to witnesses, police fired live bullets at a crowd of about 100 protesters.

The exhibition, expected to receive some 18 million visitors during its six-month run, is seen by Spain as a chance to show itself the equal of its European partners in technological, organisational and imaginative verve. "This exposition, which we bid for in 1982 and won in 1983, has witnessed the development and consolidation of Spanish democracy," Señor Gonzalez said. "It has been witness to our economic advance, the modernisation of Spain, the increase in prosperity of our people, our integration into the European Community and our total involvement in all international forums."

When Expo closes on October 12, several multinational companies will stay to set up a technology park. (Reuters)

Winnie Mandela fighting back

Winnie Mandela is fighting to rescue her political career as an activist. She is still "Mother of the Nation" to thousands of township youths radicalised by state repression. The estranged wife of the ANC leader, Nelson Mandela, faces the next formal test of her popularity on May 3, when her region of the African National Congress Women's League elects office holders.

Hungary's first representative at the Miss Universe contest, being held this year in Bangkok, has said she does not want to win. Dora Patka, aged 19, said a year as Miss Universe would take her away from her studies to be a teacher.

Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, has been in

Morocco to discuss Libya's conflict with the West and Middle East peace talks with King Hassan.

Salemaa Atisanoe, known in Japan as Konishiki, a 557lb Samoan-American seeking to become Japan's first foreign grand champion sumo wrestler, blames racial discrimination for his failure.



Atisanoe: blames discrimination

US mulls break with Belgrade

THE United States is considering breaking off diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia to underline its opposition to Serbian aggression against the breakaway republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, a state department official said yesterday.

The official said much would depend on talks in Belgrade this week between Ralph Johnson, the American deputy assistant secretary of state, and Slobodan Milosevic, the Serb leader. Mr Johnson had to decide whether it was worth preserving any dialogue with Belgrade, he said.

The American embassy in Belgrade is still accredited to Yugoslavia even though it is now reduced to two of its former six constituent republics — Serbia and Montenegro. The diplomat said that if Washington broke its links with Belgrade, it would not be able to transfer recognition to Serbia because of Belgrade's aggression and its record on

As the Americans argue with the Serbs, Greece disputes the claims of Macedonia, Chris Eliou writes

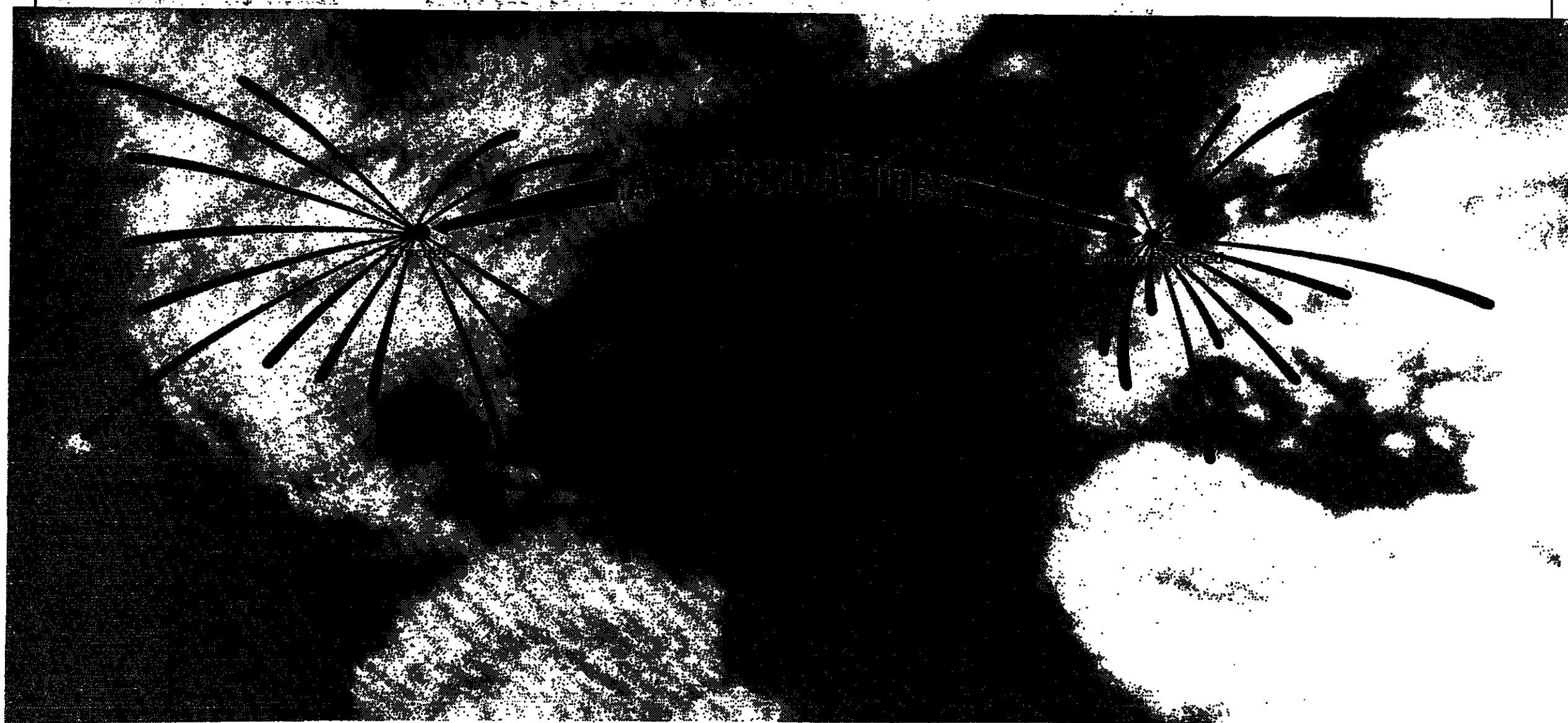
human rights. If Washington breaks off ties, it could put Belgrade's membership of international organisations in jeopardy. Yugoslav treasury officials flew to the United States yesterday to try to head off any attempts to exclude them from the International Monetary Fund.

Meanwhile, the Greek government stepped up its efforts to avert recognition by the European Community of the Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. Failure to find a face-saving formula could lead to the collapse of the government of Constantine Mitsotakis midway through its four-year term.

Mr Mitsotakis has had emergency consultations in Athens with Gianni De Michelis and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Italian and German foreign ministers. Yesterday he met Joao de Deus Pinheiro, their Portuguese counterpart, and meets Douglas Hurd, the British foreign secretary, in Athens on Thursday.

Athens has blocked Community recognition on the ground that the use of the name implies territorial claims on its northern province of the same name, and is seeking to hold the EC to a three-point agreement reached by foreign ministers last December. The agreement requires Skopje, the capital of the Yugoslav republic, to adopt constitutional and political guarantees that it has no territorial claims and to avoid use of a name that would imply such claims.

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Woodrow Wyatt

The Chancellor will be a fine guardian of the public purse

A part from Mr Major, the government's great success story is Norman Lamont. Yet almost from the moment he became Chancellor in November 1990, he has been reviled, often venomously, by powerful press voices, which should have known better. Foremost in the pack has been *The Sunday Times*, with this paper sometimes close behind. The *Sunday Times* front-page headline on April 12 asserted "Britain set for hung parliament, with Labour the largest party". Its leader on March 15 was headed "Opportunity lost", and the Budget was branded "a damp squib".

That accorded with the leader column of August 4, 1991: "It must now be dawned on John Major that he needs a new Chancellor... In the run-up to an election he will be savaged by the formidable Labour economic team of John Smith and Gordon Brown." Even on April 12, after the Tories had won, *The Sunday Times* banner headline was "Lamont survives in reshuffle".

Save in the minds of Lamont-baiters, there was never a doubt that he would remain the pilot steering us to the sunnier, calmer waters of recovery, now cheerfully in sight after the storms of the recession, for which he was in no way responsible. Crabbed critics must reconsider their hostile judgments or lose more face for being unbalanced and ridiculous — like the good, over-clever Sir Alan Walters, who has been busy contradicting himself in the *Evening Standard* while attacking Mr Lamont. He achieved a miracle of absurdity on April 13: all the Falklanders should be given hefty bribes to leave their homes, he said, to allow Argentina vacant possession. You might think even an unworried economist would know about the prospects of huge oil reserves in Falkland waters and the wealth which will eventually pour out of Britain's share of Antarctica.

Norman Lamont inherited inflation at nearly 11 per cent, and reduced it to 4 per cent; he has cut interest rates by 3.5 per cent to the present 10.5 per cent, comparable with Germany's for the first time in a decade. Not bad for a Chancellor portrayed by the carpers as hopeless. His cautious but brilliant Budget skilfully skewered Labour, with its judicious tax cuts for all and the credible promise of more to come. He destroyed John Smith's bogus budget by persistently demanding a figure for Labour's spending plans. Unable to answer, John Smith's facade of sound respectability collapsed.

Nor could Labour brush away Mr Lamont's careful analysis showing that the extra taxation required would come to an annual £1,250 per average family. Torpedoing the battleship Smith, showing it was dead with plywood, clinched the election. Some Tories queried Mr Lamont's wisdom in repeatedly highlighting taxation, probably because they were conned by the now pole-axed pollsters, who idiotically told us that a general willingness to pay higher taxes was a bonus for Labour.

Mr Lamont is a brave, canny Scot, who resolutely keeps his head while other prominent Scots lose theirs. Occasionally he seemed to some hesitant and dithered on TV, prompting suggestions that he could do with a good make-up artist. That he will now be a profligate spender is another fashionable, silly superficiality. His chief secretary at the Treasury, Michael Portillo, is an ardent anti-spending hardliner, like the Chancellor and the social security secretary, Peter Lilley. Others in key spending posts, at education, transport and employment, are of the same mind. Mrs Thatcher herself could not ask for stronger guardians of the public purse.

One of my bitterest memories of the state school system as a parent concerns the way promotions almost invariably went to the worst teachers. What I mean by "worst", is what any common-sense view of schooling would regard as worst: from teachers who could not spell to those with a mystical commitment to avoiding any transmission of knowledge for fear that it would limit the imaginations of the ignorant.

The very teachers who reduced me to fury with their simple-minded ideological certainties or their plain inadequacy would move onwards and upwards, often to headships in other schools. Those most likely to climb in the profession have not been the gifted classroom teachers whose achievements remain a matter of quiet satisfaction to themselves and their pupils, but the politically devious careerists who know how to spout the fashionable line to an interview panel.

That parents, and the nation at large, have no redress against this

is now unacceptable to all political parties. Jack Straw, from the safe confines of the opposition benches, has promised that Labour will be at least as determined to root out bad teaching as the Tories. Indeed, one consolation for Labour in defeat is that it will not have to cope in office with the embarrassment of the National Union of Teachers' conference. Had Labour won on the basis that it could deliver better education, this week's insistence by teachers that they be accountable to no one but themselves would have propelled the party straight into a stark test of principle.

The NUT's rejection, by an overwhelming majority, of government plans for a system of teacher appraisal with real teeth places its members firmly in the trade union tradition so harmful to Labour. By setting their faces

against the only kind of professional evaluation which can improve education standards — one which penalises bad teachers and rewards good ones — the teachers are choosing to defend an infamous kind of producer-dominated public service.

Undaunted by public opinion, parental outrage or pressure from their political friends, many will go to the barricades for an education system run by and for the educators: a closed system which not only protects itself from criticism by outsiders, but makes its least effective members immune to comparison with their betters.

But surely, many good teachers should be fighting against this stand? To shield the inept, the lazy, and the slipshod cannot be in the interests of the profession as a whole. Conscientious, able teachers must deeply resent the

damage which has been done by poor teaching to the public esteem of their vocation and to the reputation of the state school system. They must be ashamed as well of the unreconstructed hostility that the NUT officially expresses to the very idea that teachers should be identified and made to improve their performance or be weeded out.

So how is it that a policy can be adopted which must be contrary to the interests of many teachers who have everything to gain and nothing to lose from being properly assessed? Why is there not a great groundswell of support from the profession for a system which would bring just rewards to the many good teachers languishing in the backwaters of the system? One reason is to do with the tyranny of political correctness within the teaching

community. (And "community" is, unusually, the apposite word here: teachers very largely socialise with, and often marry, other teachers.)

For a generation, the autocratic attitudes of the education theorists has been adamantly opposed to the notion of critical assessment itself. At least some of the resistance to having themselves assessed is part of the teaching profession's antagonism to the idea of judgmental examinations for anyone. Even sensible teachers have been brain-washed (or bullied) into treating any kind of comparative examination as morally wrong, whether it concerns pupils or themselves. Hence the NUT voted to accept only assessment which carries no penalties and does not distinguish between better and worse performers: an exercise which would amount to

nothing more than counselling in the interests of an individual's "professional development", with no consequences for his pay or career prospects.

There is another reason why a profession can come to be dominated by voices so alien to its best interests. Like many of the old producer-dominated industries, education is a monolith in which pay and conditions are negotiated nationally by huge bodies, which dwarf local or individual concerns. A heavily unionised public service can quite easily be manipulated by small groups of well-organised tacticians. The only solution to this, as the government has recognised, is pluralism: breaking the hold of huge unions which attract professional agitators. Schools which control their own funds and which have the power to determine their own independent philosophies will not be caught up in a national game of power politics. Instead they can concern themselves with the real needs of pupils and the real strengths of teachers.

Teacher appraisal must reward the conscientious not the fashionable ideologues, says Janet Daley

Can they pass the exam?

Good luck to life's winners

Alan Ryan asks if equality is an obsolete idea Labour should drop

For the fourth time in 13 years, the British left — hard, soft, or ever so mildly reformist — is picking itself up and wondering whether anything in its repertoire has a chance with the voters. In particular, it has to decide whether equality is now such a dirty word that it had better be scrubbed from the Labour dictionary entirely. What makes the task so baffling are the contradictory signs coming from the electorate.

There is no taste for redistributive taxation in any of the advanced industrial countries, and in all of them there is great taxpayer reluctance to pay for programmes aimed at the poor, single mothers, or the chronically unemployed. Yet in much of the world — France, Germany, Italy and the United States, if not to the same extent in Britain — there is a populist backlash which suggests an egalitarian protest against privilege and arrogance.

In America, for instance, no amount of explanation about the nature of the bank where Congressmen have been bouncing their cheques can defuse the voters' fury. Voters who begin by thinking that their representatives have been messing about with the taxpayers' money are not appeased when they discover that the congressional "bank" was no more than a system for making advances out of the pooled payrolls of all the members. They simply channel their anger to the rules which allow politicians to set up such systems while the voters cannot.

And yet none of this sustains a more general egalitarianism of the sort that the left could hope to capitalise upon. Currently the

presidential candidate with the most appeal to the disgruntled is a Texas billionaire, H. Ross Perot, whose autocratic style as an employer would threaten civil war if it were ever to be translated to the White House. No doubt a few sophisticated souls would argue that we should vote for a billionaire because he has less incentive to rob the taxpayer, but the blind hatred of the privileges of politicians seems to be just that: blind.

But public attitudes towards privilege, wealth and power suggest something more complicated than mere blind rage. Certainly, there is nowhere any enthusiasm for equality as such. Nobody begrudges the best tennis players earnings of five or ten million dollars a year, though they flinch a bit when mediocre baseball players pick up a million bucks. Part of this is no doubt the result of ignorance: few Americans knew until recently that the heads of Japanese car firms were paid about a tenth of what their American counterparts are paid, but a groundswell of indignation at the ludicrous salaries of chief executives is growing now that they do know.

It is impossible to explain this acceptance of vast inequalities of income as the result of a well-founded belief in the need for incentives, or an enthusiasm for the competitive economy. However, one thing that makes the high earnings of the best tennis players acceptable is that they do compete for their prizes; immediately behind every number one are half a dozen candidates hungry for the top spot. It is some time since competition for work on the General Motors board has resembled life on the Grand Slam circuit, and I have yet to meet



Top tennis players like Stefan Edberg earn huge prize money, but the public do not object

anyone who thinks that the \$86 million that Robert C. Goetz took home from Coca-Cola last year is the minimum it takes to put some fizz into managers.

The acceptance of inequality is not the result of ignorance about its scope. Mostly, it stems from a view about the acceptability of good and bad fortune which makes perfectly good sense, even though it is not a view that intellectuals have gone in for: from Aristotle to T.H. Green and

John Rawls, they have thought we should replace chance with justice. I am not sure that this resonates with the man in the street. People rightly have a very different attitude towards the chance of doing well and the chance of having something horrible happen to them — although they do not think very accurately about the odds in either direction, always misjudging their chance of winning the lottery, and are still more frightened of aeroplanes

than of motor cars. Once people's views about good and bad luck are understood, it is easier to see why most people support the welfare state but do not subscribe to egalitarianism.

Skills like those of tennis players are widely thought to be a gift from the gods, like drawing a winning ticket in a lottery, so why should we begrudge the winners their money? Surveys used to find British workers objecting to the wealth of their employers — who

had earned it by hard work — yet not much minding inherited wealth. If you take the philosophers' obsession with justice seriously, you would expect people to approve of the results of hard work and application, and disapprove of arbitrary good fortune. But the reverse makes good sense too. It is simply good luck to be born the son of the Duke of Westminster — it might have happened to any of us — so why complain? Our employers, on the other hand, may be hard-driving figures we have every reason to distrust, so why not begrudge them their rewards?

In the case of bad luck, there is a different outlook at work. Old age, injury or prolonged illness bring undeserved misfortune with them, and here it seems to me there is a general sense that the arbitrary inequality they cause is something society ought collectively to alleviate.

Even here, what is at work is not the abstract enthusiasm for equality that philosophers are so fond of: the sentiment varies, but often it is a feeling of human solidarity: we all face the hazards that flesh is heir to, and human societies should provide a common protection against them. Some such thought may account for the affection in which the British hold the National Health Service, even when they agree that it is less than perfect. At the least society is seen as an insurance company, but one that cannot throw out the bad risks.

If that is right, it squares with what opinion polls suggest: that Labour is attractive as the defender of the NHS and other features of the social insurance system, but not as the bearer of a positive vision of egalitarian social justice. Egalitarians have always been clearer about the inequalities they are against than about the equalities they are for, and they have killed off a good many of them. Nobody now objects to equality before the law, or thinks women should have fewer chances than men to become doctors, lawyers, or politicians.

The Labour party would get on better with the electorate if it stuck to the defence of the welfare state, and otherwise acknowledged that most of its supporters see the world as something of a lottery — one they do not want rigged against them, but which they do not wish to abolish altogether.

The author is professor of philosophy at Princeton University.

...and moreover CRAIG BROWN

A new breed of hotel reviewer has come onto the scene, uncorrupted by luxury or cosiness, refusing to succumb to the allure of good food and a comfortable bed. Of these, the undeniably doyenne is Carol Glanville. She describes her job as being "to see through all the pleasures with which hotel managements attempt to distract their customers". Her writing as a hotel critic has been acclaimed as "quite as powerful and penetrating as the young George Orwell... to her, a hotel bedroom is as a bull was to Hemingway: a beast waiting to be slain".

Today, we proudly reprint these fearless extracts from some of her recent reviews, detailing in her spare and haunting prose some of the more harrowing experiences she has undergone in luxury hotels the length of the land.

The Grand Palace Hotel, Cornwall. On arrival, I was greeted by a smiling doorman who asked if he could carry my bags. But I had seen this trick before. His smile left me in no doubt that he was hell-bent on a tip. But two can play that game, so I said no, thank you very much. I have a perfectly good pair of arms, and I proceeded to carry them upstairs myself. That showed him! Needless to say, the acquisitive smile never left his face for a moment, even in the light of such a defeat. The nosiness of the rest of the staff knew no bounds. When did I like my breakfast? Which paper did I like to read in the morning? Was

there anything else? And they expect one to pay for such relentless probing? *The Hotel Grand Comfort, Marcellis.* The coffee was of a very dark colour, and far too hot — steam could be seen rising threateningly from the surface. The so-called staff had not even bothered to pre-butter the bread, and the marmalade was presented in an entirely separate dish. They obviously rely on the goodwill and hard labour of their long-suffering guests rather than getting off their backsides and doing the job for which they are being paid.

The Gran Residencia, Madrid. Knowing that I was to spend the weekend in Madrid, I brushed up on my Portuguese. All to no avail. None of the staff seemed the slightest bit local, and few were able to speak more than a few words of Portuguese. Would it be asking too much of The Gran Residencia to employ one or two natives of the country?

The Seaview Family Hotel, The Isle of Wight. Contrary to all my more optimistic expectations, the Seaview Family Hotel turns out to be choc-a-bloc with children galore. Furthermore, many of the bedrooms are, I discovered, occupied — whether secretly or not, I do not know — by the very same children. When I complained to the manager, he pointed out with an unctuous smile that the word "Family" was visible on the hotel's nameplate. I had been utterly misled, I complained, into thinking that it was simply a hotel run by the Seaview family, and of

course I did not hesitate to demand my money back. *The Plaza Hotel, Fife.* They cheerfully advertise "country walks", but they don't bother to tell you that you can easily get your shoes muddy on even quite a short walk. Personally, I returned with my shoes soaking after a walk across a nearby stream, and when the manager superciliously asked if I would like him to dry them, I couldn't refrain from replying "What is the point of asking me that now, when they are already wet?" That certainly silenced him!

The Castle Hotel, Wales. Lunch was a crippling disappointment. First, the staff had made an appalling mistake with my starter: I asked for the escargots and to my horror received half a dozen shells, into each of which a slimy creature closely resembling a snail appeared to have crawled. My next course was fish, which tasted, I'm afraid, as if it had only recently been swimming, and the vegetables tasted as if they had been dug up from the ground rather than purchased over the counter in a decent shop. The wine was indifferent, dominated by a distinct grapey taste. Service was aggressively friendly; it is really necessary in this day and age to greet each guest as he or she enters? On the cage for a tip, no doubt — but they didn't get one from me, I hasten to add.

Next week: Carol Glanville reviews Heaven My bedroom was cloudy, the hair intrusive, the management far too anxious to please...

Rise of the house of Usher

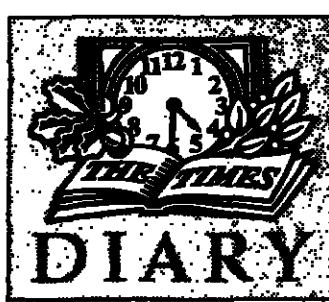
WHEN Mrs Thatcher, the dress-maker's daughter, discovered power-dressing, she looked to Marianne Abrahams of Aquascutum to bring the style to her wardrobe. The current first lady of politics and former needlework teacher, Norma Major, has now found a new fashion guru for Downing Street: the British fashion house Frank Usher.

Just a week before the election campaign, Mrs Major, once renowned for making her own clothes, was to be seen in the fitting rooms of Anne and Max Bruh, the company's managing directors. Essential evening wear was her wish.

The firm's mass-produced outfits, selling for an average £200, are hardly of the ilk of a Norman Hartnell, Hardy Amies or even an Aquascutum for that matter. But unwayed by mere fashionable opinion, Mrs Major selected several gowns and shorter cocktail dresses.

The favoured Thatcherite blue was rejected in favour of a politically dubious pink, which remains her favourite colour. This choice is also believed to have been the result of the unflattering press Mrs Major received when she wore a Jacques Vert outfit the night her husband became prime minister. What most upset the fashion world was her cardinal sin of wearing the same suit to Buckingham Palace the next day.

The Bruhs who founded the company 45 years ago after fleeing the Nazis, are not alone in receiving Mrs Major's approval. She has always had a penchant for Patricia Saxby's Windsor designs, and was also spotted in a private room at the Jaeger store in Regent street before the polls.



Arbiters of style sniff at her choice of outfits, and sneer at her fondness for a Teasmade by the bed and a Peacock rattan chair. But Mrs Major is in good company. The Princess Royal is also a regular at the Usher salon, and they both like pink. On her last visit, diplomatic staff had to ensure that Mrs Major did not pick the same outfit as the Princess who had been into the shop the same week.

As normal service is resumed in some parts of Whitehall today, at least one minister must be finding it difficult to drum up much enthusiasm. Sir Wyn Roberts, the Minister of State for Wales, has become the longest-serving minister in a single department for more than 100 years. He was appointed to the Welsh Office in Mrs Thatcher's first government. He is now one of only 10 survivors of Mrs Thatcher's first ministerial line-up. The others are Kenneth Clarke, Lynda Chalker, Douglas Hurd, Norman Lamont, John MacGregor, Patrick Mayhew, Tony Newton, Malcolm Rifkind and John Wakeham.

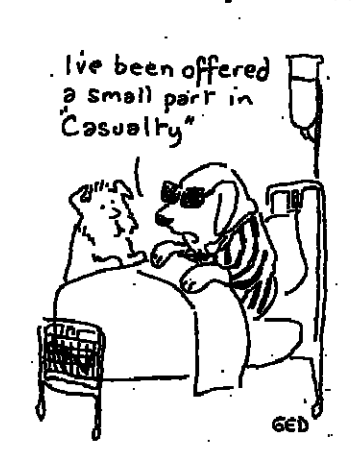
Minister's best friend ANTI-TERRORIST police are often called upon to protect politicians and other possible targets,

but they rarely have the chance to save the life of a cabinet minister's dog. So owners and their pets were thus somewhat bemused when three armed guards carried an ailing golden Labrador into a veterinary surgery in Devizes recently — and strode to the head of the queue.

The dog, belonging to former Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Brooke, had suffered a heart attack and required the immediate attention of surgeon Ian Macqueen, who performed his functions under the protective gaze of the police cordon.

Benji, as the bound is known, was said to be "very poorly" when he arrived, but Macqueen says the Labrador has now made a full recovery. "I'm afraid I cannot tell you much except that the dog was treated here," said the security-conscious vet.

Mr Brooke, who has now been succeeded in office by Sir Patrick



Mayhew, still warrants round-the-clock protection. Benji, at least, will be happy to learn that this state of affairs is unlikely to change — even if, as some are now suggesting, his master becomes Speaker of the House.

Unheard melodies

WHILE half a billion people worldwide watched the Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert for AIDS Awareness last night, others were less lucky — or at least less well served. Viewers in the former Soviet Union, Turkey, Spain, Portugal, Japan, Finland and Australia who had hoped to watch some of the world's best-known rock stars were forced to accept everyday fare. Their television stations had refused to take any of the 21 live feeds offered by the organisers.

It is expected that all the countries will have the benefit of the extravaganza within the next ten days, subject to negotiations about the broadcasting fees, although the exercise is mainly about raising awareness of AIDS.

The Moscow station, RTR — with a possible 100 million viewers — will pay only a nominal fee for the concert. The channel was simply unable to insert the programme into the daily schedule. Spain — on religious grounds one presumes — never broadcasts music on Monday nights.

Labour's domination of the media over Easter prompts a question: were John Smith, Bryan Gould, John Prescott and other leadership contenders the only MPs on duty? It certainly seems so. Apart from John Major, who was at Chequers for the holiday, the entire cabinet seems to have disappeared from view. David Mellor is in Switzerland, Kenneth Clarke is at home with the family in Nottinghamshire, Peter Lilley has gone to his French chateau, Norman Lamont is on holiday until the weekend, Virginia Bottomley was in the Isle of Wight, Gillian Shepherd, the other new cabinet minister, is however, due back at her desk today.

POWER

There is another reason why a profession can come to be dominated by voices so alien to its best interests. Like many of the old producer-dominated industries, education is a monolith in which pay and conditions are negotiated nationally by huge bodies, which dwarf local or individual concerns. A heavily unionised public service can quite easily be manipulated by small groups of well-organised tacticians. The only solution to this, as the government has recognised, is pluralism: breaking the hold of huge unions which attract professional agitators. Schools which control their own funds and which have the power to determine their own independent philosophies will not be caught up in a national game of power politics. Instead they can concern themselves with the real needs of pupils and the real strengths of teachers.

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POWER AND PROTEST

After the Conservatives' fourth general election victory in a row, not just the Labour party is despairing. Several groups that had seen salvation in a Labour government are now talking about extra-parliamentary action. Yesterday the Scottish TUC president, Jane McKay, hinted that civil disobedience should be planned in Edinburgh to coincide with the EC summit. Other Scots want to organise a referendum on self-government. And teachers at the Easter NUT conference only narrowly voted down a boycott of the government's plans for teacher appraisal.

Some groups traditionally feel uncomfortable with a Conservative government: trade unions, the unemployed, sociologists, council tenants, Scots, the Welsh. Others have been newly alienated over the past 13 years, partly because Margaret Thatcher delighted in taking on entrenched interests, but also because any reforming government that lasts for that long is bound to make new enemies. To the old list can be added some doctors, nurses, teachers, farmers, academics, local authorities, civil servants and most of the arts world.

British politics used to be self-regulating. If an interest group lost out under one party, it could reasonably expect the other party to win power before too long and redress the grievance. But by the next election, these "losers" could have been at the wrong end of government policy for 18 years, with no certainty even then of a change.

Political parties have tended to believe that, even with an electoral system that gives them majorities in the Commons with a minority of the vote, they have a mandate to enact their manifesto commitments once in power. That is a fair argument when government regularly changes hands. But when one party holds power for a generation, it should perhaps become more sensitive to those who are not its natural supporters.

The Scots and Welsh have the strongest case. Not since 1955 have the Scots voted predominantly Conservative, and the Welsh have never done so this century. Yet for 26 of the 37 years since 1955, they have been ruled from Whitehall by Tories. The usual argu-

ment in a democracy against dissenters taking power into their own hands is that, if they want change, they must vote for it. In this year's election, 74 per cent of Scots and 71 per cent of the Welsh voted for parties that promised either devolution or independence. Yet self-government is still denied them. No wonder they are frustrated.

Local authorities' too are understandably angry about the seizure of their power by the centre. Their democratic credentials are no less legitimate than those of central government, yet their autonomy has been whittled away by one law after another.

Other interest groups, such as teachers or farmers, have less of a case. When teachers claim that career appraisal should not penalise poor performers, they are arguing against the interests of the pupils they are supposed to serve. When farmers complain about the dismantling of an agricultural policy that has subsidised them for decades at the expense of everybody who buys food, they too are arguing selfishly.

The government need not give in to such special pleading. But if John Major wants a classless society and a country at ease with itself, he must acknowledge that the grievances of some of the groups that have been left in the cold by a Conservative government are legitimate. With a fourth parliamentary term come extra responsibilities.

Mr Major is clearly beginning to realise this. In the last Budget, he gave disproportionate help to those on low incomes. He has appointed conciliators to see through the education and health reforms. But he still has to rethink the distribution of power within Britain.

The longer the Conservatives remain in government, the more the country needs pluralism at other levels. In its reform of local government, Mr Major should be generous in handing powers back to local people. And he can no longer completely ignore the strength of the Welsh and Scottish calls for self-government. Democracy can still thrive when one party rules, but only if it is a party for all the nation.

RESCUING GATT

The world has never had more riding on a rapid resumption of strong economic growth. Without it, Eastern Europe and the states of the former Soviet Union have scant hope of extricating themselves from the mess bequeathed them by communism; nor will the countries in Latin America and Africa which have embarked on equally ambitious economic reforms find the markets they need for export-led recovery. Stability in Europe, key to President Bush's new world order and Jacques Delors' ambitions for enlarging the European Community, depends on a robust expansion in output and trade.

The Americans, worried that the US economy could slip back into the recession from which it is emerging, will appeal to the Group of Seven finance ministers in Washington on Thursday to join in a co-ordinated strategy to boost growth this year beyond the inadequate 1.5 per cent predicted by the International Monetary Fund. But they will be wasting their breath unless the US and the EC first succeed, tomorrow at the White House, in breaking their deadlock over farm subsidies. This trivial and unnecessary dispute — trivial because agriculture is the key to prosperity for neither side, unnecessary because so little now divides them — is wrecking the prospects for concluding the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations and with it, the world's best hope of an export-led boom.

Tomorrow's meeting brings together Mr Bush, Mr Delors and Anibal Cavaco Silva, the prime minister of Portugal, currently president of the EC. These three have the power to succeed where their technicians have been failing for more than five years. The Americans, who have already given much ground, may offer further assurances to the EC on one of the points at issue, the EC's insistence that it must be free to pay its farmers direct income support as part of its plans to reform the common agricultural policy. But there will be no deal unless Mr Delors decides to put Europe's well-being above whatever ambitions he nurtures for his future career in French politics, and over-

rides the objections of Paris to the very principle of freeing agricultural trade.

A week ago, Mr Delors told Mr Bush that the two sides were "very close" to agreement. Days later, his spokesman was saying that nothing indicated that an accord could be reached in Washington. There could be no clearer indication that the obstacle is political, not technical. Mr Delors seems no more courageous than the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, when it comes to facing down the French. Here CAP reform and GATT merge. Mr Delors knows better than anyone that the EC must rid itself of the corruption and economic lunacy of its farm policy for the sake of its consumers, its unemployed, and its competitiveness on world markets. He should be seizing on the GATT negotiations as an opportunity to hasten CAP reform, particularly since the GATT proposals are broadly compatible with that objective.

A saner agricultural policy would be a gain in itself. But the stakes in the Uruguay Round are vastly greater. The EC, which accounts for 40 per cent of world trade, cannot afford to put at risk the liberal post-war trading system. Delay in concluding the round is already affecting business confidence, as 120 of the world's leading corporations gave warning last week. The surge of protectionism that would accompany its collapse could cost the EC £80 billion a year in higher consumer prices, to say nothing of lost jobs in export industries. And the EC should not fool itself that there can be a deal without a firm commitment on farm trade: it is the loadstone of European good faith for too many of the 108 countries involved.

This negotiation is the responsibility of the European Commission, not its 12 member states. It is a test, so far miserably failed, of collective EC foreign policy. The whole six-year negotiation is starting to unravel, and Mr Bush is running out of the negotiating time granted him by Congress. Mr Delors has grand dreams for the EC. This week will show whether he has the statesmanship to end the dispute that puts all of them in jeopardy.

AID FOR AIDS

Live Aid, the 1985 rock concert to help victims of famine in Africa, astonished the world with its energy, idealism and commitment to the cause of the starving in faraway lands. The performance of the night was by Queen, whose star, Freddie Mercury, put on a show of such stunning intensity that the band's album shot back to the top of the charts. How apt and poignant therefore that last night's Wembley spectacular should be in memory of the man whose death in November has done more than any number of pious government campaigns to bring home to young people the tragedy of AIDS.

The canonisation of Mercury may be mawkish, the accolades overdone. As a singer and flamboyant stage presence he was unsurpassed, but as a role model he gave scant encouragement to AIDS activists, refusing until only a day before his death to acknowledge publicly that he had AIDS. Yet knowledge publicly that he had AIDS. Yet Queen was right to come together again to eulogise his memory. Channeling the grief of millions of fans, the band has personalised a cause that, like starvation, apartheid or the Kurds, would otherwise have left most indifferent.

AIDS may be modish in Hollywood but it is still so taboo that most pop singers have shunned AIDS charities. That changed yesterday. The parade of personalities on stage was like a rock *Who's Who*. Even Mrs Larry Fortensky, better known as Elizabeth

Taylor, was there to add glitz and the moral authority of her AIDS campaigning.

Wembley charity spectaculars are becoming an annual fixture in the rock world. Everyone benefits. The stars can afford to play for free because the publicity is more than money can buy and the glow of having contributed to a good cause disarms many a barbed criticism of an often exploitative and amoral lifestyle. Charities see a way of getting their message across to millions, swaying public opinion and raising substantial sums from television and video rights. Fans can indulge for three hours in some of the best in rock, which can now be broadcast to a billion people simultaneously.

Britain has discovered a talent for these global spectaculars. As with the London marathon, British organisers are experienced, know the market and can turn a burst of enthusiasm into a properly costed operation. English is overwhelmingly the language of pop, and British groups are still among the world's best. Britain is in the right time-zone to broadcast both east and west.

The Wembley charity rock concerts mix the untapped idealism of thousands of ordinary people with their determination to have a good time. They play publicity for the huge sums it is worth. And in a cynical world, the global message performs an almost evangelising function in raising awareness of other people's suffering.

Election perspective as dust settles

From Mr P. H. Twyman

Sir, Your leader of April 15, "As the dust settles", touches upon an aspect of the general election campaign which has been missed by the pollsters and the pundits.

The Conservative party campaign from the centre may have seemed a shambles, as you say; but down at the "grass roots", in most individual constituencies, the local party machinery operated by voluntary workers worked extremely effectively.

As a party activist with connections throughout the country, I can say that the voluntary effort was much better organised than the general election of 1987 or the European elections of 1989. Volunteers were better trained. Mutual aid, whereby strong constituencies helped in the margins, was much better co-ordinated.

The result was that any waverers amongst known Conservative supporters were persuaded to vote for the party by a succession of "knockers up" calling on them throughout the day. One cannot help thinking that this effort, as much as glibly advertising or "spin-doctoring", led to the Conservative successes in marginal constituencies.

Yours etc.

P. H. TWYMAN,
Thrift House,
129 Minnis Road,
Birmingham, Kent.
April 15.

From Dr Stephen Howe

Sir, Dr Brian Harrison (letter, April 15) is rightly respected as one of the finest historians of modern Britain. It is saddening, therefore, that at a time when constitutional traditionalism and the reforming impulse are increasingly sharply contended, he should be found defending the last ditch of tradition.

His proposal for an anti-Conservative pact in order to preserve our present electoral and constitutional arrangements is simply perverse. Such a pact would have no principled basis. It would be seen by the electorate, and doubtless rejected, for what it would be: a cynical and desperate ploy by politicians united only in their anti-Toryism.

The only viable ground for a Labour/Lib Dem/Nationalist alliance is quite the reverse: united on an agreed programme of electoral and constitutional reform and making the next election, in effect, a referendum on such proposals.

Dr Harrison's contention that the constitutional status quo "maximises the political impact of the vote" is simply untrue. At best, it maximises and distorts the impact of a small number of floating voters in a handful of marginal seats. And to say that it "accords with our parliamentary and national traditions" is a mere tautology.

Dr Harrison does not mention Scotland. Possibly the climate of opinion there is so wildly at odds with

his nostalgic view of constitutional consensus that he cannot bear to look at it too closely. And perhaps he might ask himself why not only the Scottish Constitutional Convention, but also all Europe's most successful economies and every democratic reform movement in the world, from eastern Europe to southern Africa, have opted for proportional electoral systems, written constitutions and entrenched bills of rights.

Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN HOWE,
Ruskin College,
Walton Street, Oxford.
April 15.

From Mr Martin Rewcastle

Sir, Your third leader ("Fun and games", April 13) questions the need for a secretary of state for national heritage and assumes that the job does not hold together.

At last what are often called the cultural industries are to be viewed as a whole. Lack of such an overview has clouded UK policy and led to innumerable bodies with self-interests but without real evidence of productivity. Moreover, the post brings together the subsidy industry. Mr Mellor is in an ideal position to review the tired idea of revenue subvention, which helped to re-establish postwar Britain but does not serve us well now, especially when capital is sorely needed.

From subsidies variously applied by various departments, Mr Mellor might be able to establish a national investment policy, embracing broadcasting, the arts, national treasures and pastimes. This assumes a tough and intelligent discussion of public cultural investment. There will be angst in London's patronage committees. A ministry for fun? Hardly likely.

If proper cultural investment does replace patronage, there will be, as you state, no need for a secretary of state to interfere directly, so long as actual decisions are taken by and decentralised to regional or local partnerships.

Mr Mellor has a real opportunity. It will be interesting to see if he takes it. Yours sincerely,
MARTIN REWCASTLE,
30 Little Knowle,
Budleigh Salterton, Devon.
April 13.

From Dr R. van den Brink-Budgen

Sir, We are told that the Conservative party won the election because its message on tax "got through". Is the whole democratic process, in which we take such fierce pride, in whose defence we have fought long and bloody wars, in which we place such trust and hope for good government, nothing more, then, than a crude method of measuring the degree of our reluctance to open our wallets?

Yours faithfully,
ROY VAN DEN BRINK-BUDGEN,
27a Warrington Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk.

Neil-jerk reaction?

From Mr R. Bala Superamaniam

Sir, Mr Robert Adley, MP, refers in his letter (April 18) to an angry Mr Kinnoch calling him a jerk in the House and the electorate then coolly passing judgment on Mr Kinnoch at the general election.

In the same vein, is it correct to assume that the Bath electorate passed the same judgment on Mr Chris Patten, the Tory chairman, who spearheaded his party's campaign with vicious personal attacks

on Mr Kinnoch, ably assisted by the Tory tabloids?

Yours faithfully,
R. BALA SUPERAMANIAM,
30 Lichfield Gardens,
Richmond, Surrey.

From Mr E. F. Smith

Sir, The letter from Mr Robert Adley suggests that Mr Kinnoch was wide of the mark when he called him a jerk. Mr Kinnoch was too kind.

Yours truly,
ERNEST SMITH,
Red House, 90 Drift Road,
Clanfield, Hampshire.

Bosnia on the brink

From Mr Martin Place

Sir, In your leader of April 10, "Bosnia on the brink", you claim that "neither Serbia nor Croatia have dropped their earlier designs on the territories inhabited by their ethnic kinsmen". The fact is that Croatia has officially recognised Bosnia as an independent state within its present borders.

What you define as territorial designs of the Croatian government, someone more benevolent might interpret as the legitimate interest in the well being of Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in case it is forced into some rump Yugoslavia against the will of the majority of its citizens.

After all, it has not been long since we went into a war in order to protect the interests of much fewer British citizens in the Falklands than there are Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Caught in the EC maw

From Mr Lucian Comoy

Sir, There has been much made recently of the political advantages and problems of being "European", but very little about how things are at grass-roots level for an EC citizen moving abroad. When I moved to France my papers took one week over several lunch hours. I have now lived in Italy for two years and have not succeeded in converting the multitude of papers both countries require.

An example: my GB driving licence is exactly the same as the Italian one (EC model), yet I cannot instantly convert it as I did in France. I must take two days off work and collect two medical certificates from different public bodies, one residence certificate and four photographs, one of them certified.

Furthermore, I must translate the licence and take it before a tribunal to swear I did it accurately (no actual translation necessary: I shall copy an

Italian one which is identical). The next step is to procure a certificate declaring I have never been to jail. Then I go to another office which takes all of this, my tax number, passport details and the equivalent of £90 and makes me wait six months, during which time I have no right to drive as I have no licence.

What can be the point of the Brussels mandarins waving their wands if countries such as Italy are allowed to maintain this obstructiveness in the face of straightforward requests from EC citizens?

Brussels would gain more credibility in its avowed federalist aims if it did something to force some change on these byzantine bureaucracies which remain accountable to no one, least of all the poor individuals caught in their maw.

Yours faithfully,
LUCIAN COMOY,
via Montemio 27,
Piazzano,
15020 Fr. Castelsanpietro AL, Italy.

Extended rights of audience in court

From Mr Clive R. Kelly

Sir, I am a solicitor, admitted in 1957, employed in commerce and industry, with no strong desire to blossom into active advocacy — although with some modest experience. Professionally, I am able to be employed and to engage in private practice.

The Griffiths committee, I assume, would accept my appearing in a higher court for a private client, but not for my employer. What an insult to my employer's choice of professional representation. What an impertinence to my professional integrity. No wonder that lawyers in jurisdictions with enjoyment of dual rights of audience view us with varying airs of disbelief!

The reasoning in your leader, "An unjustified bar" (April 15) is correct. To conclude otherwise would indeed confirm Dickens's view that, if so, "the Law is a Ass!"

Yours faithfully,
C. R. KELLY,
22 Aylestone Avenue, NW6.
April 17.

From Mr Paul Thomas and Mr Robert M. Downey

Sir, Whilst we fully support the view expressed by the Lord Chancellor's advisory committee that advocates need to show the necessary objectivity and expertise, solicitors in local government and in commerce and industry frequently demonstrate these qualities by their appearance in courts and tribunals throughout England and Wales.

The suggestion that they lack them, and that they should therefore be deprived of rights of audience in the higher courts, is extraordinary and must be strongly refuted. All solicitors have to respect the Law Society's professional code of conduct and are paid to do their best for their clients within the law.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL THOMAS
(Chairman,
Local Government Group),
R. M. DOWNEY
(Chairman,
Commerce and Industry Group),
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.
April 17.

From Mr M. G. J. Hine

Sir, You decry as a "hollow point" the view of the Griffiths committee that employed solicitors, by virtue of their employment, could not show the requisite degree of impartiality and objectivity to exercise rights of advocacy in the higher courts. As a justification for this view, you refer to the sanction available to the Law Society (more accurately, I believe, the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal, a branch of the High Court) to strike off a miscreant solicitor.

Quite rightly, before a solicitor (whether employed or in private practice) is struck off, a complaint of

some weight and particularity has to be made out and the solicitor afforded an opportunity to respond. The progress of an employed solicitor's career can also be impeded by an unfavourable management perception of his performance which might not be conveyed to him, still less particularised.

Which of these factors do you suppose has a more immediate relevance to an employed solicitor's daily professional conduct?

Doing one's best for the client sometimes involves giving unpalatable and robust advice, which is best given at arm's length. An independent solicitor may thereby lose one client. An employed solicitor may lose his job; but more likely, and more perniciously, he may unwittingly damage his career prospects with that employer.

As one who was formerly employed as a solicitor in local government and is now in private practice, I have an appreciation of what are very real problems. They may be capable of being resolved; but, first, they must be recognised as being of some substance and not simply dismissed as being "hollow".

Yours faithfully,
GREGORY HINE,
Michael Hayes, Hine & Co.
(Solicitors),
58 Leigh Road,
Eastleigh, Hampshire.
April 15.

From Mr Stephen Hall-Jones

Sir, If we at the Bar are to survive as a separate profession, we shall have to tailor our "products" to meet the changing circumstances by developing new services, widening the range of our existing services and increasing the depth of our specialisations.

Litigation support and trial management is one possible area of expansion; the *ad hoc* supply of advisory services on a transactional basis is another. Even in criminal practice there will still be a need for specialist, freelance consultant advocates in fields such as business crime and other offences requiring more technical and forensic skills than the average generalist advocate can bring to the table.

Generalist work, whether in the advisory or advocacy fields, will inevitably be conducted by solicitors and solicitor-advocates. Provided, however, that barristers are willing to turn to work which does not always involve in-court advocacy but demands a broader mix of specialist advisory, advocacy and other consultancy services in contentious matters, there will continue to be a demand for such services and a justification for an independent Bar.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
STEPHEN HALL-JONES,
3 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.
April 17.

Bridge over the Arno

From Professor Emeritus Kenneth Kirkwood

Sir, John Phillips reports from Rome (April 14) that "during the second world war German troops blew up other bridges across the Arno... but did not consider the narrow Ponte Vecchio [in Florence] of sufficient strategic value to warrant destruction."

Though true that the Ponte Vecchio was not totally destroyed, like its neighbours to east and west, it was nevertheless damaged by the extensive demolition of the buildings upon it. The shops were wrecked and mined and booby-trapped. German explosive charges also created a mountain of rubble to obstruct the immediate approaches.

If buses must be routed along the Arno adjoining the Ponte Vecchio one must hope that urgent attention is given to its safe-guarding. In Oxford there is concern about damage to ancient buildings from buses, but the latter were fortunately never subject to wartime high explosives of comparable force.

Yours truly,
KENNETH KIRKWOOD,
233 Woodstock Road,
Oxford.
April 14.

From Mr C. N. Beattie, QC

Sir, Your Rome correspondent states that during the Allied advance in the second world war the Germans did not consider the narrow Ponte Vecchio in Florence of sufficient strategic value to warrant destruction.

I venture to think that it had great strategic value which the Germans countered, not by blowing up the bridge itself, which was a magnificent antiquity, but by blowing up the apartment blocks at the north end of the bridge, thus blocking the north road with rubble ten feet deep.

I, as a British army liaison officer with the Americans, on whose sector of the front Florence lay, well remember my vehicle nosed into the rubble, climbing over, and entering Florence on foot.

Yours faithfully,
C. BEATTIE,
1 The Gatehouse,
27 Old Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
April 14.

Business letters, page 17

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

Village shops

From Councillor M. R. Bishop

Sir, Some councils adopted the Test Valley borough council's business-rate rebate scheme for village shops (report, April 15; letter, April 18) quite a while ago.

My own district council, Rother, introduced such a scheme in 1990-1, when it was Conservative-controlled, and it has continued to operate it since, despite losing its Conservative majority.

The tests for eligibility are financial hardship within a business, the loss of which would result in exceptional hardship to local residents. The relief granted has ranged from 50 per cent to 100 per cent. Of this, three quarters of the value is, by law, financed from the national business-rate pool, and one quarter by the district's chargepayers.

With only a single exception (an edge-of-town neighbourhood store), the sole beneficiaries have been our traditional village shops and/or sub-post offices. Councillors elsewhere should, indeed, follow these examples.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BISHOP,
Combe House,
Beckley, Rye, East Sussex.

Man of Kent

From Mr Michael Wickenden

Sir, Political correspondents cannot be expected to be as knowledgeable as the prime minister on the subject of cricket; but a reference to Alfred Mynn, the lion of Kent, as a "Surrey cricketer" ("Reshaped cabinet sets out priorities", April 16) surely requires correction.

Mynn (1807-1861) was born at Goudhurst on the Kentish Weald, and according to the *Dictionary of National Biography* he played 99 matches for Kent. In leading the county team to pre-eminence for over 20 years he came to be regarded as one of the greatest cricketers of his time, playing for the All-England XI from 1846 to 1854. Eventually he impoverished himself through his devotion to the game.

Mynn now lies in the village churchyard at Thurnham, below the North Downs. As a popular ode recalls:

As our champion lies sleeping under
the Kentish grass,
Proudly, sadly we will name him —
To forget him were a sin.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL WICKENDEN,
20 Frankland Crescent,
Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

SOCIAL
NEWS

Birthdays

The Queen celebrates her birthday today.

Mrs Angela Barrett, tennis champion, 60; Professor Gerald Benney, gold and silversmith, 62; Mr Tom Burns, former editor, *The Tablet*, 86; Sir George Burton, former chairman, Fisons, 76; the Earl of Derby, 74; Mr Laurence Ellis, rector, Edinburgh Academy, 60; Sir Eric Faulkner, former chairman, Lloyds Bank, 78; Air Marshal Sir John Hunter-Tod, 75; Sir Robin Ince, deputy chairman, Lloyds Bank, 66; Mr John McCabe, former director, London College of Music, 53; Dr Halldan Mahler, former director-general, WHO, 69; Mr John Mortimer, QC, barrister, playwright and author, 69; Sir Geoffrey Palmer, former Prime Minister of New Zealand, 50; Sir Raymond Posner, former chairman, Halifax Building Society, 77; Mr Anthony Quinn, actor, 77; the Earl of Verulam, 40.

Marriage

Mr A.C. Bragg and Miss M.E.C. Mroczek. The marriage took place on Monday, April 20, at St Etheldreda's Church, London between Mr Andrew Bragg, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Bragg, of Cambridge and Miss Mary Mroczek, daughter of Mrs Peggy Mroczek, of Wimbledon.

Thanksgiving services

Earl Spencer. A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Edward John, 8th Earl Spencer will be held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Tuesday, May 19. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets in writing to The Secretary, Room 19, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by no later than May 11. Admission to the service will be by ticket only. All are welcome to apply for tickets.

Prince George of Cambridge. A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Prince George of Cambridge will be held at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, at noon on Friday, May 1, 1992.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jan van Riebeeck, surgeon, founder of Cape Town, Culemborg, Netherlands, 1619; Charlotte Brontë, Thornton, Yorkshire, 1816.

DEATHS: St Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury 1093-1108; Peter Abelard, theologian, Chalon-sur-Saône, 1142; Henry VII, reigned 1485-1509, Richmond, Surrey, 1509.

Bomber pilot's medal could fetch £60,000

A YOUNG RAF pilot's Victoria Cross, awarded posthumously after the first thousand-bomber raid over Germany in the second world war, is expected to make up to £60,000 at Christie's in London on Friday (John Shaw writes).

Flying Officer Leslie Manser was just 20 when he took part in the raid on Cologne on May 30, 1942 but his aircraft was caught in search lights and badly damaged by German flak. While the target was bombed successfully, evasive action failed to throw off the lights and anti-aircraft fire, according to a citation in the *London Gazette*.

The rear gunner was wounded and the front cabin filled with smoke. Pilot and crew could have escaped by parachute but Manser tried

to save the Avro Manchester and its men from falling into enemy hands.

As the plane headed for home, it began to lose height and when a crash was inevitable he ordered the crew to bale out. The citation said: "A sergeant handed him a parachute but he waved it away, telling the non-commissioned officer to jump at once as he could only hold the plane steady a few seconds more."

"While the crew were descending to safety they saw the aircraft still carrying their gallant captain plunge to earth and burst into flames."

The Manchester crashed near the Dutch border and four of the crew eventually got back to Britain. Details of Manser's courage emerged from their debriefing and the VC was awarded in October 1942.

DEATHS

ANDERSON. On April 16th peacefully in Lancashire. Canon of St. Mary's, Manchester. Funeral service at St. Mary's, Manchester, on Monday April 27 at 2pm.

CASTLE-STEWART. On April 18th, peacefully at home. Mrs. Jean Castle-Stewart, nee Macdonald, aged 84. Daughter of Mr and Mrs. James Castle-Stewart. Funeral service at St. Mary's, Manchester, on Tuesday April 28 at 2pm.

CLIFFE. On April 18th, peacefully at home. Mrs. Jean Cliffe, nee Macdonald, aged 84. Daughter of Mr and Mrs. James Cliffe. Funeral service at St. Mary's, Manchester, on Tuesday April 28 at 2pm.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.S. Birley and Miss F.A. de Patron. The engagement is announced between Thomas Spencer, elder son of Mr and Mrs H.L.H. Birley, of Elgin, Morayshire, and Frances Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.W. de Patron, of St Peter Port, Guernsey.

Mr B. Cannon and Miss M.J.K. Fraser. The engagement is announced between Benedict, elder son of Mr Geoffrey Cannon and Mrs Antonia Cannon, and Melissa Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Fraser.

Mr W.O.H. Friend and Miss A.L. Wedd. The engagement is announced between William, of Northdown, Kent, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Irvine Friend, of Muddlesstone, Shaftesbury, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Wedd, of Louth, Cambridgeshire.

Mr D.R. Gale-Hasleham and Miss C.J. Molyneux. The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Roy Gale-Hasleham, of Gossett, Clwyd, and Cindy, daughter of Mr Matthew Molyneux, of Southport, Lancashire.

Mr O.C. St. John and Miss S.J. Stanton. The engagement is announced between Oliver, youngest son of Mr and Mrs J. Michael Hoare, of Little Thurlow, Suffolk, and Sophie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G.R.E. Stanton, of The Manor House, Dersingham, Norfolk.

Mr W.F. Moore and Miss S.A. Shouse. The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Moore, of Ascot, Berkshire, and Alexandra, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Shouse, of Willaston, South Wirral.

Hospital may reopen as medical museum

A HOSPITAL which was closed last year may house a national museum of health care if financial backing can be found. The Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital in Aylesbury is considered particularly suitable because of its association with Florence Nightingale, who advised on its design and equipment. The hospital was opened in 1862, thanks in large part to the fund-raising efforts of Miss Nightingale's brother-in-law, Sir Harry Verney. He had earlier approached her for her support, which she gave only on condition that the plans were submitted for her approval.

The close interest she took in its buildings is shown in a series of letters which combine meticulous attention to detail with a determination that her principles should not be compromised. "Bear in mind that it is absolutely necessary that every ward should be commanded by its nurse's room, with a window looking into her ward," she writes.

Another letter states: "The wards should be at least 20 feet wide and 15 feet high, with 1,200 cubic feet per bed at least. Each large ward should have three water closets built out from it at the end. The same outbuilding should

contain a fixed bath with hot and cold water laid on."

Later, in a dispute over the overcrowding of beds with insufficient ventilation, she protests against her authority "being used for a plan against several features of which I have entered an objection." A proposal to use chair-filled mattresses is dismissed with Miss Nightingale insisting that hair is the only suitable material.

Since the last units were transferred to Stoke Mandeville the building has been boarded up. The area health authority is anxious to sell it, but has yet to receive government approval, and some local people would like to see part of the site used for a new community hospital.

The museum project is being co-ordinated by Bernard Quorrell, chief executive of Aylesbury Vale District Council. He said he was considering an approach to the Wellcome Foundation to finance a feasibility study.

The Wellcome Collection of the History of Medicine is at present in the custody of the Science Museum, and part of it is on display in two of the museum's galleries in South Kensington. But about nine tenths of the collection is in storage.

School announcements

Benenden School. Term starts today at Benenden School, Senior's Day will be held on May 16 and Speech Day will take place on July 4.

The King's School, Canterbury. Summer Term begins today. The Annual Choral Concert will take place in the cathedral on May 9. King's week will run from June 25 until July 1. The Open Day will be June 26 (details from the Headmaster's Secretary). Speech Day is Thursday, July 2 when the Anniversary Preacher will be the Reverend Dr Charles Elliott, Dean of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

The Princess Helena College. Summer term begins today and ends on July 1. The Speech Day and Garden Party is on June 20, and the Guest Speaker is Dr Mary Archer. The Summer Ball is on June 27. For details please contact the Secretary at the College.

Reed's School, Cobham. Summer term begins on Tuesday, April 21, and ends on Saturday, July 4. Peter Knight is Captain of the School and Matthew Neal-Smith is Captain of Cricket. The School Society sings Mendelssohn's *Eljah* on Sunday, May 17, and Old Reedians Reunion Day is Saturday, June 27. A lunch to thank donors to the Annual Foundation Appeal will be held at School on Thursday, July 2, the day on which the XI plays the Stock Exchange.

St Mary's School, Weybridge. Term starts on Thursday, April 23, and will end on Friday, July 3, 1992, at 12.30pm. Half-term is from the end of afternoon school, on May 22, to Monday, June 1, 1992. The St Mary's Association Summer Event will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, June 20, starting at 2.00pm.

Wreckin College. Summer term starts today at Wreckin College. Confirmation will be conducted by the Bishop of Shrewsbury on May 3. Mr Dennis Silk will open the New Boy's boarding house on May 5 and the Summer Ball will be on May 22. On June 18 and 19 the seven houses will present a sequence of *The Mysteries*, as recently adapted for the National Theatre. Term ends with Speech Day on June 27.

Chess grandmasters offer prize challenge

AN OPEN chess tournament with prize money to spend in an auction of early books on the game will be held in London on May 6 (John Shaw writes).

Players are being invited to take part in a simultaneous display given by two grandmasters, Raymond Keene, chess correspondent of *The Times* and Murray Chandler, editor of *British Chess* magazine.

Prizes of £100 each in credit to the two best opponents in the judgment of the grandmasters. The money will go towards any purchases from the library of the late Dr Robert Blass, a Swiss lawyer, at the firm's South Kensington auction room on May 8.

The sale of more than 1,000 books is said to be the finest collection of its kind to appear on the market for decades. The library contains an early edition of a book of

game play written by the 16th-century Spaniard Ruy Lopez, a priest famed as a great player (estimate £1,500-£2,000).

The sale also contains lots originally belonging to Paul Morphy (1837-1884), an American, whose spectacular rise and sudden retirement was similar to that of Bobby Fischer a century later. The catalogue says: "Although grounded in entirely different personalities, their chess styles show a similar deceptive clarity, and their withdrawal into eccentricity has turned them both into legends."

It accompanies original score cards from Morphy's blindfold game with Louis Paulsen (1833-1891), who pioneered many opening variations still in the repertoire, notably in the Sicilian Defence (est £2,000-£3,000).

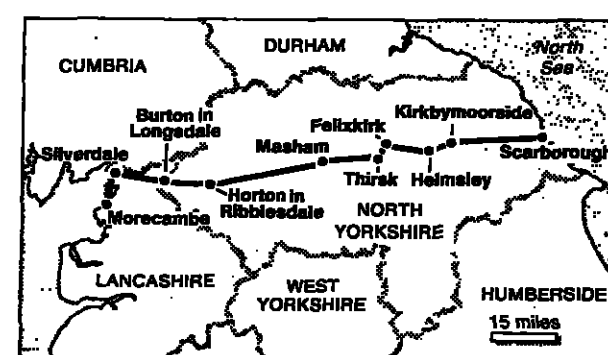
Short stories, page 6

Policeman pounds a beat to rival Pennine Way

By Paul Wilkinson



PC Bill Clapperton and the walking route he has devised across the North



PC Bill Clapperton and the walking route he has devised across the North

A POLICEMAN who took time off from the beat to walk the hills has devised a new coast-to-coast route to rival the famous trans-Pennine crossing created by Alfred Wainwright.

The 154-mile path from Morecambe Bay in the west to Scarborough in the east has just been published in a guidebook for those who want to follow in the footsteps of Police Constable Bill Clapperton, a Cleveland community officer.

"I did it partly to attract people away from the beat, but also to see what can be seen along the way," he says. "It worked it out so that it is all a gentle, even paced walk which most people could attempt. It is divided into sections that can be attempted on a daily basis for those wanting to take their time over it. The longest section

without a break is only nine miles, so most people should be able to achieve that in a day."

Beginning at Silversdale on the shores of Morecambe Bay it runs past Burton in Lonsdale in north Lancashire to the North Yorkshire hills of Ingleborough and Pen-y-Ghent via Horton in

Ribblesdale. It then crosses the Dales national park to Masham before crossing the flatlands north of Thirsk and striking into the Hambleton Hills at Felkirk. Next it enters the North York Moors national park, skirting Helmsley to Kirkbymoorside. From there it drives through the North Riding Forest Park

into Forge Valley near Scarborough, arriving at the sea-side at the town's south bay. His guidebook, published by Teesside Art College, will be sold to raise funds for the Teesside Hospice Care Foundation in Middlesbrough, which is in his community patch. He had hoped to call the route the Hospice Coast to Coast, but it has already become Clapperton's Way among the walking fraternity. Those who complete it within 12 months will be eligible for a badge and certificate from the hospice.

The Pennine Way generates about £2 million in spending and helps to create or support 156 jobs, according to a survey by the Countryside Commission of the use and economic impact of the forerunner of long distance paths (Ronald Faux writes).

Sir John Johnson, chairman of the commission and a

keen walker, says the report provides essential information to help manage the Pennine Way and other national trails in a way that gives walkers a real feeling for such fine tracks of countryside.

The survey shows that between April and October 1990, 10,000 long distance walkers and 153,000 day walkers went along the Pennine Way. With out-of-season walkers added, over the full year the 250-mile path was likely to be used by 12,000 day walkers and 250,000 day walkers.

The report says that one in four long distance walkers could not find the type of accommodation wanted but nevertheless some returned to do the Pennine Way five times a year.

Telephone 071 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Telefax 071 782 7827

BIRTHS

ALANERD. On April 17th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London to Anusha nee Dhanraj, a son. Mr and Mrs. Anand Dhanraj.

BLACKLOCK. On April 17th at home to a son, Mr. John Blacklock.

BRONOVSKY. On April 17th to Helen and Francis a daughter, Anastasia Brigid.

FARRIDAY. On April 18th to Peter and Simon a daughter, Charlotte Ann Farriday.

HEWITT. On April 18th to Peter and Simon a daughter, Charlotte Ann Hewitt.

KAME. On April 18th, at the Portland Hospital, to Nicola (nee Jenkins) and Thomas, a beautiful daughter, Emily Grace.

NEWTON. On April 18th to Louise (nee Dwyer) and Christopher a daughter, Rose Laetitia, a sister for Oliver.

PAGES. On April 18th 1992 in Bordeaux to Laura (nee Fontaine) and Yves-Dominique, a daughter, Olivia.

ROBERTS. On April 17th to Nissau, Bahamas to Rosemont nee Fontaine, a daughter, and Edward a daughter, Julia Hazel.

DEATHS

ANDERSON. On April 16th peacefully in Lancashire. Canon of St. Mary's, Manchester. Funeral service at St. Mary's, Manchester, on Monday April 27 at 2pm.

CASTLE-STEWART. On April 18th, peacefully at home. Mrs. Jean Castle-Stewart, nee Macdonald, aged 84. Daughter of Mr and Mrs. James Castle-Stewart. Funeral service at St. Mary's, Manchester, on Tuesday April 28 at 2pm.

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PERSONAL APPEARS IN LIFE & TIMES

SECTION - PAGE 9

THE TIMES RENTALS. LOOKING TO RENT OR WANT TO RENT YOUR PROPERTY? RENTALS APPEAR EVERY WEDNESDAY TO ADVERTISE PHONE. 071-481 1986 071-481 4000

Answers from page 14

SQUALLS. (C) A parlour-game in which small discs are snapped from the edge of the table to a centre mark, from oblique angles to throw a loaded stick or similar missile at some object. "In the orchard Revis and Mark squallied at the pears with short sticks."

GAMELAN. (C) A type of orchestra common in the East Indies, esp. in Java, from the Javanese *gamelan* to handle. "At what point the gamelan emerged from a small ensemble of gongs into the elaborately organized orchestra it is today is not known."

FLACKET. (C) To rustle like a taffeta dress, frequentative of *flack*. Women's ribbons or loose gear are said to flacket about. It is more expressive than flap. A dressy loose woman would have the former word applied to her, "She'll go flacketing about."

RABAT. (C) A carpenter's plane, from the French *rabot* and Portuguese *rabota*, 1574, "a plane that carpenters use, Latine *rabot*" (an implausible derivation).

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OBITUARIES

SIR WILLIAM
McEWAN YOUNGER

Sir William McEwan Younger, DSO, DL, brewer, died on April 15 aged 86. He was born on September 6, 1905.

WILLIAM McEwan Younger played a significant role in the commercial and political life of Scotland in the 1960s and 1970s. He was chairman of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries from 1960 to 1969 and managing director for all but the last two of those years and was the dominant force in extending the brewery's interests nationally.

A man of strong and independent views, he had no brief for the received wisdom of the brewing industry of the day, which relied on expansion by acquisition of tied trade in tenanted houses through the issue of share capital. He was a convinced free trader in every sense of the term and a strong believer in competition. Acquisition was by organic growth and the use of cash, and market share was to be gained by the development of strong brands and the use of clever marketing. His prime strategy in building up the brewery was to seek outlets in free houses, rather than for it to build its own chain of public houses. He was a pioneer in the use of cans, and when he retired in 1969 Scottish and Newcastle had almost ten per cent of the beer trade in the UK while possessing only a few hundred tied or managed houses.

When an opportunity was offered to join with Tennents, and thus make a combine

College, Oxford, where he developed a life-long love of mountaineering. In later life he was elected an honorary fellow of Balliol. On leaving Oxford he succeeded his father in the family firm of William McEwan, the Edinburgh brewers which had been started by his great uncle.

During the second world war he commanded successively the 40th Light AA Battery and the 14th Light AA Regiment RA, taking part in all the North African campaigns, the landing at Salerno and the Italian campaign. He achieved great distinction during the first siege of Tobruk when the battery he commanded successfully beat off repeated Stuka attacks, claiming more than 50 enemy aircraft. For this he was awarded the DSO.

After the war he returned to Edinburgh and set about reviving the brewing industry in Scotland. Under his leadership the integration of McEwan's and William Younger's was completed, followed by the absorptions of Bernard's, Morrison's and the Robert Younger's breweries and finally a merger with Newcastle Breweries in 1961 to form Scottish and Newcastle Breweries. By nature and upbringing a Conservative of the "one nation" variety, he stood unsuccessfully as a parliamentary candidate for West Lothian. He continued to take an active part in Conservative politics for many years. He was an enthusiastic supporter of Edward Heath's leadership and was chairman of the Conservative party in Scotland from 1971 to 1974, for which he was made a baronet.

Always a radical in political thought, he was a founder member of, and major contributor to, the Institute of Economic Affairs. He was on the board of the British Linen Bank, the Scottish Widows Fund and Life Assurance Society, and Scottish Television and was a particularly successful chairman of the Second Scottish Investment Trust. He was actively involved in assisting his fellow Scots to take advantage of the industrial changes taking place internationally, helping to devise a scheme to enable industrialists, planners and trade unionists to meet their foreign counterparts. He was a founder and chairman of the Highland Tourist (Cairngorm Development) Ltd.

A notable contributor to charity he gave his house at Balerno to be a school for the Save the Children Fund.

He was married first to Nora Balfour from whom he was divorced in 1967, and by whom he had one daughter, Caroline, and then to June Peck, who nursed him with the Tweed. He was educated at Winchester and Balliol



that could totally dominate the brewing industry in Scotland, he refused it, saying it would eliminate competition and thus be bad for both customer and producer.

Though diffident to the point of shyness in personal relationships, his extraordinary business self-confidence and original mind made him an inspiring boss to work for, and he backed his subordinates to the hilt if they used their own initiative.

Born at Melrose, William McEwan Younger was brought up on the banks of the Tweed. He was educated at Winchester and Balliol

ALFREDA HODGSON

Alfreda Hodgson, British mezzo, died on April 17 aged 51. She was born at Morecambe on June 7, 1940.

ALFREDA Hodgson was one of the most sought after soloists in oratorio over the past 25 years. She was a distinguished singer in the Bach Passions and Handel's *Messiah*, a radiant Angel in Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, a fine Magdalene in the same composer's *The Apostles*, and one of the most authoritative interpreters of the mezzo parts in works by Mahler and Britten. There



were few who brought such understanding to Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde*. Her appearances in opera were few, but she made a notable debut with the English National Opera in 1974 as the soothsayer Ulrica in Verdi's *A Masked Ball*. Her Covent Garden debut came even later — in a double bill with Ravel — in 1983. She also took the role of Sossus in the Thames Television production of Tippet's *A Midsummer Marriage*. She studied at the Royal

Northern College of Music, first the cello, then voice, and appeared in student productions. She made her London debut at the Wigmore Hall in 1963, including Britten's cycle *A Charm of Lullabies*. In the same hall the following year she was awarded the Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship. Her first engagements with orchestra were with the Halle in Manchester. In London she first appeared with orchestra under the baton of Klemperer in Mahler's Second Symphony. Thereafter she never lacked for engagements at home or abroad.

A particular pleasure was given by her duo programmes with the soprano Sheila Armstrong. In these she exhibited her natural gift for humour. Her final appearances took place in January when she was already ill with the cancer that killed her. She bore her illness with courage and good cheer, qualities that always marked her singing.

Her voice, although capable of a ranging high, was dark-hued in timbre. She used it at all times with consummate artistry. Although it was not large, it carried well in big halls because her tone was so well focused. She was left as a memorial of her art recordings of *The Dream of Gerontius* under Sir Alexander Gibson, *The Apostles* under Richard Hickox, *Das Lied von der Erde*, also with Gibson, and a lovely recital record, made in 1980, on which she sings, among other works, Britten's *Charm of Lullabies* and Brahms's *Two Songs with Viola*. She is survived by her husband, the music teacher Paul Bissett, and their two daughters.

VAKHTANG CHABUKIANI

Vakhtang Chabukiani, the greatest male dancer of his generation, died of a heart condition in Tbilisi, Georgia, on April 5 aged 82. He was born in Tbilisi on March 12, 1910.

WITHIN one month, three of the men who transformed Russian ballet from its imperial past to its revolutionary fervour have died: Asaf Messerer in Moscow, Konstantin Sergeyev in Leningrad and now Vakhtang Chabukiani in his native Georgia. All were well advanced in years and although they were still active as teachers or producers (the Maryinsky Ballet's brilliant young star Zelenka is a pupil of Chabukiani's) their great contribution lay in the past.

It has to be said, however, that they were giants who bestrode the world of art. Men in ballet today, all over the world, dance differently (and better) for their influence, but only a handful of their successors can be ranked alongside them.

Vakhtang Chabukiani was, by genuine consensus, the finest of them, unmatched for his fiery personality, his virtuosity, his ideal physique and manly bearing, and his ability to combine dramatic and dancing skills over a wide range of roles. As a choreographer and director, too, he showed forceful talent.

He never danced in Britain, and only on two occasions in America: as a young dancer sent with a partner, in 1934 for a concert tour marking a political agreement between the two countries, and 30 years later towards the end of his career when he was still able to enjoy success in the famous *pas de deux* from *The Corsair*. But films of his dancing and the evidence of the roles created for him (often his own choreography) confirm the awe and admiration of contemporary descriptions.

Three qualities in particular were repeatedly described. First, the sheer virtuosity of his dancing: the way he could soar around the stage in tempestuous leaps which were compared with an eagle's flight, or the fact that he turned so fast in pirouettes that the spectator's eye was dazzled. Second, the way he used his dance skills to theatrical effect, whether to play a war-like mountain chieftain in one of his own ballets, or to breathe new vigour into the traditional classical roles. And underlying all this, a very virile, dominating presence; nobody found it the least odd that, following Georgian custom, he insisted on keeping his moustache even when dancing the conventional old classics.

Chabukiani was born into a poor family and from the age of nine was put to making baskets and toys to eke out their income. Delivered some of these at Christmas to the only ballet school in Tbilisi, his appearance caught the eye of the teacher, Maria Perrini, who began giving him free lessons where his talent at once became obvious.

When he was 14, two visiting dancers from Leningrad persuaded him that he needed to study there, but it was another two years before he could make the journey. He was too old for acceptance in the famous school, his earlier studies being thought insufficient, but he began (like Sergeyev) in the evening course that had been set up for late starters. However, his zeal, flair, intelligence and hard work enabled him to complete the full course in three years, only the last of which was full-time.

Accepted in the State Academic (later Kirov) Theatre in 1929, he was given important roles at once, in Lopukhov's *Ice Maiden* and the *pas de deux* in *Swan Lake*; before the end of his first season he danced Siegfried in the latter work. This was the first of many big leading roles in quick succession, as Basilio in *Don Quixote*, in the grand *pas de Raymonda*, Albrecht in *Giselle* and Bluebird in *The Sleeping Beauty*, all within three years.

Agrippina Vaganova, the great teacher in Leningrad at that time, encouraged Chabukiani to strive for increasingly difficult virtuoso effects, and when she revived Petipa's *Esmeralda* in 1935 the changes she introduced included a new showpiece duet, *Diana and Acteon*, for Ulanova and Chabukiani which has since entered the international repertoire. The version of the *Corsair pas de deux* widely known today was also made



Vakhtang Chabukiani in the role of Othello

with Chabukiani's exceptional gifts in mind and the choreography for the man's solo is by him. Although the Communist government had accepted that preserving the classical heritage for a new, wider audience was important, pride of place went to building a new repertoire, and Chabukiani had leading roles in many of the historic creations of the 1930s. They included the Sportsman in *The Golden Age*, Jerome in *The Flames of Paris* and Vaslav in *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai*, besides parts in *Lost Illusions*, *Tarus Bulba* and *Partisan Days*.

Not content with contributing as a performer to these epoch making works by Lopukhov, Vainonen, Zakharov and others, Chabukiani also became a choreographer (usually dancing the leading male role too). His first attempt was a bravura solo for himself, *The Fire Dance*, to music by Rubinstein.

With *The Heart of the Hills* in 1938 he turned to an episode from Georgian history, a revolt against high taxes in feudal times, for an ambitious full-evening work. It had music and design by two of Chabukiani's Georgian fellow countrymen, respectively Andrei Balanchivadze (George Balanchine's brother) and the gifted, later hugely influential Simon Virsaladze. The choreography drew upon traditional folk dance elements and the soft flowing movements (transposed into balletic pointwork) of the women.

The success of this was followed the next year by *Laurencia*, another big ambitious work based on Lope de Vega's tragedy *Fuente Ovejuna*, also about a peasant's revolt against a tyrant. Chabukiani danced the male leads in both these ballets. His aim was to tell the

stories entirely through expressive dance without needing any separate acting or mime.

At the height of his fame, Chabukiani returned during the war to Tbilisi and to become for the next 30 years director, choreographer and for a long time leading dancer at the Paliashvili Opera House, devoting his great gifts and his patriotic fervour to building a national ballet for Georgia which achieved a standard that he could present with pride at international festivals in Vienna (1958) and Paris (1966).

The many ballets he created in Tbilisi including several on national themes, such as *Sinatis* and *Gorda*, also *The Demon*, based on Lermontov's poem, and a mastery treatment of Othello (1957) in which the power and intensity of his own performance in the title part were unmatched.

Chabukiani remained in demand for performances in Moscow and Leningrad, and in 1947 he was responsible for a revival of *La Bayadère* at the Kirov theatre which substantially reshaped the ballet into the form best known today and much increased the bravura demands on its leading man.

When Rudolf Nureyev first burst upon the ballet scene in Leningrad in 1958, it was Chabukiani's choreography that gave him his first successes, and memories of Chabukiani in his prime to whom informed spectators turned as a standard of judgement. By coincidence the two men had much in common in their backgrounds as well as in their dancing. Lamentably, Chabukiani's gifts were not so widely seen, but his patriotic pride put the city of Tbilisi firmly in the history of ballet. His achievements brought many honours, among them the rare title of People's Artist of the USSR.

HENRY KREMER

Henry Kremer, British industrialist and sponsor of man-powered flight, died at his home in Israel on April 8 aged 84. He was born in Dvinsk (now Daugavpils) Latvia on May 8, 1907.



HENRY Kremer, like Leonardo da Vinci, believed that man should be able to fly using the power of his muscles. Although an ingenious inventor, such a feat was beyond him but Kremer was prepared to put his money where his mouth was. He promoted the ancient dream by offering cash prizes and development grants for the first person to achieve it.

The first cash prize was offered in 1959 when he donated £5,000 to be administered by the man-powered flight group of the Royal Aeronautical Society for a figure-of-eight flight round two markers half a mile apart. Over the next 27 years Kremer's personal sponsorship led to short flights, completion of a figure-of-eight course and the spectacular Channel crossing in 1979. During that period his sponsorship amounted to more than £150,000. He realised that this was the first real step in human-powered flight and gave the Royal Aeronautical Society a further £100,000 prize money to encourage the

design of more robust and practical aircraft.

A speed competition was devised which became an outstanding success, with the fifth and final winner completing the 1,500 metre course at a speed of 44kph. There are Kremer prizes still to be won of £50,000 and £10,000 respectively for the "Marathon" and "Seaplane" competitions.

Henry Kremer was brought to England from Latvia as a child and was educated in Britain and Switzerland, becoming a British citizen. Although his man-powered flight competition attracted widespread interest and publicity, Kremer was a self-effacing man who avoided the limelight.

For more than 50 years he was the head of a number of industrial companies which introduced numerous technical innovations. His personal achievements in the invention, design and application of new technologies were first recognised in 1941 when he developed a process for making a plywood substitute from sawdust, wood shavings and resin. Structural moulded boards replaced natural timber, which was then unobtainable, and were used in the war effort and later commercially. This was the first product of its type in Britain and it grew into the chipboard industry.

In 1953 he produced a process of making glass fibres which were chopped and assembled with adhesive and, when used with epoxy resin, formed strong structural material. This process, initially only for defence purposes, is now used commercially for most reinforced plastics work. Without the resin it is now well known as fibreglass insulation.

From 1954 to 1974 his developments included improved chaff dropped by aircraft to confuse airborne radar, advanced plastic packaging materials for weapons, electro viscous fluids and other defence products.

In 1974 he took over the

concept of the "wheelbarrow" to approach suspected terrorist bombs and, although production was assigned to another company, he made the first usable version. In 1979, in conjunction with the Fighting Vehicles Research Establishment, he developed the hydrogas suspension system produced for the Challenger tank and specified for the Chieftain.

Kremer made a lifetime pursuit of physical fitness and this helped lead him to the belief that with the right aircraft a trained athlete could achieve the ultimate — man-powered flight. He realised, too, that the best way he could contribute to the achievement of this goal would be by providing the financial incentives.

It is doubtful that human-powered flight would have been achieved and developed to the extent it has been without the encouragement and support of Henry Kremer. The Royal Aeronautical Society honoured him with Companionship in 1975, and in 1988 the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale presented him with its highest award, the Gold Air Medal, and later made him a Companion of Honour of the FAI.

He is survived by his wife Norah, two sons and two daughters.

APPRECIATIONS

Dr Peter Mitchell

PETER Mitchell (obituary, April 15) possessed a penetrating intellect and a dazzling intuition. For me, no scientist stands so firmly as a model for all scientists. I am not alone in this feeling, and I shall try to describe why this is so.

The 1978 Nobel prize for chemistry was awarded to Mitchell for formulating the theory that correctly describes biological energy transfer from food nutrients or light to adenosine triphosphate (ATP), the useful energy currency of the cell. When Mitchell first set forth this elegant hypothesis, in a paper published in *Nature* in 1961, it was entirely without experimental support. It was also a radical departure from prevailing dogma and was opposed by the world's leading biochemists. Only after nearly two decades of vigorous debate and intense experimentation was the hypothesis generally accepted and elevated to the status of theory.

The Nobel prizes are awarded for work that has had a major impact on research and understanding. They are normally awarded for an act of discovery or for the development of an important new technique. Mitchell was awarded the prize for a pure act of the imagination. Moreover, the work for which he was honoured followed in the most perfect sense the scientific method. The idea came first, and each element of his hypothesis was constructed in such a way as to be amenable to refutation by experiment.

As an undergraduate, I had been captivated by the power and simplicity of the scientific method and believed strongly that careful hypothesis-building was a prerequisite for experimental design. Nevertheless, it seemed to me that this great ideal of scientific practice was more honoured in the breach than in the observance. Mitchell put the horse squarely in front of the cart, and I read his paper in a state of stunned and grateful recognition. His achievement is a constant inspiration to scientists, not merely because his marvellous intuition eventually proved to be correct, but also because of the purity of this method.

Mitchell gave us an extraordinarily complete and accurate picture not only of how the mitochondria and chloroplasts transform energy from nutrients into ATP, but also how they survive within the cell under the stress of constant and rapid movements of ions and water across their membranes. At this physiological level, he succeeded magnificently in achieving his lifelong goal of unifying metabolism and membrane transport. He worked to the end of his life to perfect the deeper concept of vectorial metabolism upon which the chemiosmotic theory was based. Through these concepts, he continues



to energise biochemical research, and, given the mighty intellect of the man, this too may become a paradigm of biology.

Intellectual and personal attraction do not always converge, but my wife and I were immediately enchanted with Peter and Helen Mitchell when first we met. I think mostly of the four of us laughing together, of Peter's wonderful sense of humour, and of the time we went on vacation with them, and Peter and I got into a scientific discussion so intense we scarcely left the house.

Pete was an extraordinarily attractive man, in the best sense. During his final week, my sense of impending loss was continually interrupted by joyful memories of his generous and youthful spirit. Pete was not afraid of death and was grateful for having lived such a full and happy life. He projected this positive energy with uncommon grace, and he enriched the lives of all who knew him.

Keith Gardil

Norman Bruce

WHEN Colonel Norman Bruce (obituary, April 1) retired from the army and moved to Shropshire to take up a teaching post at Prestfield Preparatory School in Shrewsbury, he gave much pleasure to so many boys who did not excel in and weight. Yet with Norman Bruce, you always wanted to jump back up onto your feet to avoid being reprimanded by that loud, barking Scottish voice.

David Walker
Prestfield School
(1975-84)

April 21 ON THIS DAY 1925



A plan to "penetrate the most secluded parts of Surrey and Sussex" with new roads appalled S.D. Adshead (1868-1946), architect and town planner. One wonders what he would have felt about such routes as the M3, M23 and M25.

MOTOR TRACKS
TO SOUTH
COAST.

To the Editor of
The Times

Sir, it is something of an irony that, following the excellent letter by Professor Abner Crombie bemoaning the encroachment of town on country, we should immediately get the "London and South Coast Motorways" promoting a Bill in Parliament to penetrate the most secluded parts of Surrey and Sussex. It seems unnecessary to call public attention to the very serious consequences that will result should such a scheme as that proposed for connecting London with Brighton, Portsmouth, and Southampton materialise.

A motor track, necessarily wide and direct, cannot be constructed through a country like Surrey without considerable cutting and filling. Moreover, it will be complicated with specially arranged and frequent crossings, and altogether will strike a harsher note on the rural character of the scenery than did the railways in 1830.

Again, it may be asked, are such roads necessary, and is it wise to encourage such a proposal having regard to the well considered system of national roads that is being rapidly developed? One advantage of the scheme, so the promoters suggest, would be relief to the taxpayers by lifting from the rates some of the burden of maintaining the present roads, which are so seriously dam-

aged by heavy motor traffic. This statement, if not wholly incorrect, is at least misleading. It is well known that 75 per cent, and in some cases 90 per cent, of the cost of the improvement and maintenance of these arterial roads borne by the motorist, who, by direct taxation, provides the 15 millions which the Ministry of Transport is contributing annually towards roads throughout the country. On the whole, very excellent work is being done by local authorities financially assisted in this way. Rates are being relieved, the unemployed are given work, and a national system of roads is developing based on a wise use of roads that exist already.

But quite apart from the questions of economy and the general disfigurement of the scenery, the actual amount of depreciation to thousands of very beautiful estates will be beyond calculation. Surrey and Sussex are today the most important residential counties of the well-to-do. Driven from the suburbs, they have invested large sums of money to secure a rural retreat. But this is not all. As regards the interests of the private motorist and the user of the charabanc, whose run into the country is really an escape from Town — to these the spoilation would be as depressing as it was unforeseen. Commercial vehicles will not use it, because the present roads conveniently tap established places of call on route. And what are the advantages? A few swift cars will be enabled to rush to Brighton perhaps half an hour quicker than they could by the public way; special lines of fast-running public vehicles, which will in the end be nothing more than slow railways, will assist in converting agricultural land into building land; and the spread of the urban population which follows the making of a railway will be emphasized, only in a much more destructive way.

Yours faithfully,
S.D. ADSHEAD.
University of London,
University College, Gower
Street, W.C.1. April 20.

Teenage thief wrecks £2m cars in a year

By PAUL WILKINSON AND RICHARD FORD

A TEENAGE car thief who caused damage estimated at £2.2 million to 400 cars during a year-long car crime spree is expected to be released next month after serving ten months in youth custody.

His case highlights the task facing the police in dealing with car crime, which last year accounted for almost 30 per cent of the 5.3 million offences recorded in England and Wales. Violent clashes

with the police in Oxford and Tyneside last summer were linked to that theft and joyriding. They led the government to introduce legislation to curb joyriding, which was passed last December.

The government has also launched a £5m campaign to tackle car crime in which television and newspaper advertisements depict the car thief as a hyena scavenging on innocent people.

But MPs have questioned whether the legislation, under which drivers and passengers face prison sentences of up to five years, unlimited fines and unlimited automatic driving bans, will act as a deterrent to youngsters.

Yesterday the father of the 15-year-old boy from Leeds said that all attempts to stop his son offending had failed. The youth stole cars valued at £3.2m from across Yorkshire and Humberside, wrecking or burning 400 vehicles.

In an interview in *The Yorkshire Evening Post*, the father said: "We have tried everything. Social services are a waste of time and the delay in bringing the case to court is a waste of time. We cannot see any alternative but to put him back in the young offenders' institution if he goes back to stealing cars after his release. Maybe the shock would do him good. He is a danger to other people."

The youth began by stealing cycles, graduating through motor cycles to Porsches. His parents tried to control him by discussing his difficulties and taking away his shoes.

While the government has portrayed the car criminal as a contemporary scourge, probation services throughout the country are attempting to deal with it by a series of different initiatives.

Some have developed car projects in which youngsters are encouraged to work with vehicles and to drive them. Others provide courses which involve providing an offender with driving lessons and some force offenders to face up to the consequences of their actions by confronting the heartbreak and injury that can be caused by joyriding.



Bags of strength: David Cooper, above, after the charity race at the world coal carrying championships in Gawthorpe, West Yorkshire, yesterday in which 27 men ran a mile with 50 kilo sacks. David Jones was the winner. *Struggling Doolittle*, page 6

Deaths mar the end of crowded Easter holiday

Continued from page 1

of the main street. Fire crews rescued a man after he became stuck on the roof of his house in Oxford trying to retrieve a football, and two Gloucestershire fire crews had to rescue a flock of sheep which fell down an embankment.

Eight people were flown off a cruiser which ran aground last night on a mudbank in the river Crouch near Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex. An RAF rescue helicopter was scrambled from Manston after attempts to reach the cruiser by lifeboat failed.

Elsewhere, traffic slowed to a crawl as holiday-makers headed for inland theme parks and groups of Mods headed for the seaside. After months of economic doldrums and aided, at least in part, by the royal seal of approval given to their man-made thrills, the likes of Alton Towers and Chessington World of Adventures had a bumper day — an experience shared by motorists as they could do little but stare at the car in front they struggled home last night.

The jams were exacerbated by participants in thousands of car boot sales which have become honeypots for bargain seekers. The Automobile Association reported long queues on the M27 near Southampton, the A259 at Lewes, East Sussex, and the A4 at Reading, Berkshire, mainly caused by the ad hoc sales.

The coasts, especially in the south, where cloud and mist kept temperatures down, were comparatively free of traffic problems, other than in a few isolated areas such as Scarborough and Rhyl, where there were as many people trying to get in as they were trying to get out at one point in the afternoon.

The London Weather Centre reported "miserable" conditions on the south coast and predicted an early rush home. "It's cloudy and misty with temperatures of only 10-11 centigrade. Disappointed day-trippers will be returning home early," a spokesman said.

The weather would be fresher and brighter today, with the odd shower down the east coast.

Many families who travelled to Thorpe Park in Chertsey, Surrey, were turned away after thousands poured in following the recent visit by the Princess of Wales and her two sons, William and Henry. A spokesman said: "We had to close the doors just after midday because we already had 16,000 visitors in the park. I am sure the visit from the princess helped bring the crowds in."



Even without the benefit of a visit from the princess, Chessington World of Adventures was also forced to close its gates soon after noon with 14,000 already inside, and claimed that the park had turned into "one big carnival".

Windor Safari Park had more than 12,000 visitors as temperatures rose above 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Blackpool Pleasure Beach reported record crowds anxious to see the 100-year-old tower, now being refurbished.

Twenty-three of 5,000 scooter-riding Mods who gathered at Margate, Kent, were arrested when fights broke out with local youths. Later, their machines almost blocked the M2 and many broke down on the hard shoulder.

Material girl fixes up her \$60m deal

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

MADONNA has struck an estimated \$60 million (£34.3 million) deal with Time Warner Inc that will make the material girl the highest paid female entertainer in history.

The pop icon, who has generated sales of over \$1.2 billion in the last decade, will head her own entertainment company called Maverick in partnership with the media giant. Madonna describes the new concern as a cross between the innovative Bauhaus of inter-war Germany and Andy Warhol's New York-based Factory.

"It started as a desire to have more control," she said recently. "There's a group of writers, photographers, directors and editors that I've met along the way in my career who I want to take with me everywhere I go. I want to incorporate them into my little factory of ideas. I also come in contact with a lot of young talent that I feel entrepreneurial about."

The deal rivals the \$50 million-plus agreement Michael Jackson reached last year with Sony. Madonna's arrangement with Time Warner, the world's largest media company, will last for seven years and may be extended a further four.

Her previous albums have sold over 70 million copies worldwide. She has had nine No. 1 singles and 16 consecutive top five singles, more than any singer since Elvis Presley.

Maverick will be run by Madonna and her long-time manager, Freddy DeMann. As well as producing her records, Maverick will also develop feature films, television specials, TV series, cable television and pay-per-view programming, music videos and books as well as merchandising Madonna souvenirs.

One of its first projects is likely to be a film biography of the life of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo with Madonna in the leading role. Madonna's next album is due to be released this autumn.

Stephen Ross, Time Warner's chairman, and Gerald Levin, its president, touted the Madonna deal as a triumph for individual expression within a corporate monolith. Madonna to form Maverick opens up a unique new era of artistic autonomy and creative freedom within a larger global corporate structure, they said.

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MAN OF THE WEEK

James checks in for long haul

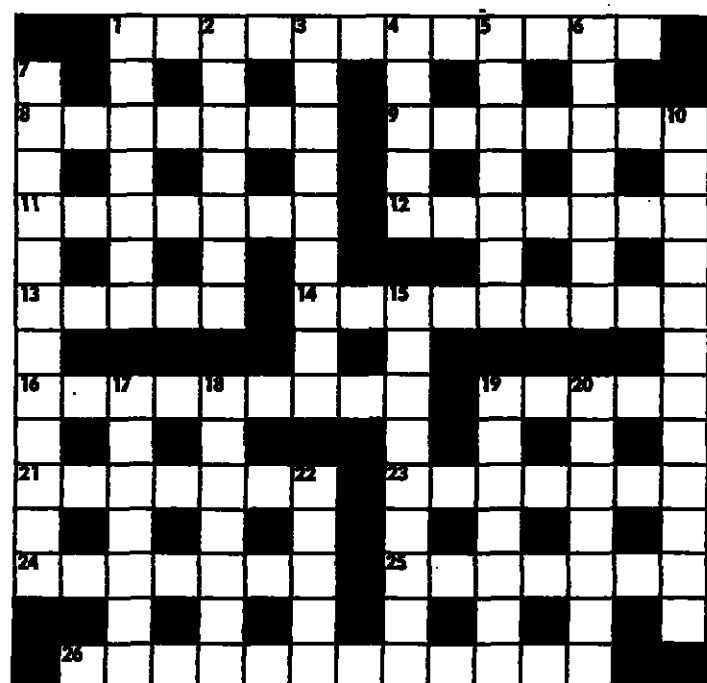
David Jones, the 27-year-old coal carrier, has won the title of Man of the Week for his heroic feat of carrying 50 kilo sacks for a mile. The young man, who is from Leeds, has been praised for his courage and determination. He is now being considered for a place in the Guinness Book of Records.



James checked in

James checked in for his long haul. The young man, who is from Leeds, has been praised for his courage and determination. He is now being considered for a place in the Guinness Book of Records.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,898



A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?
By Philip Howard

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lily has single-headed battle with performing animal (8,4)
 - 2 Old iron resuscitated, reversed to wipe the floor with (7)
 - 3 Judge runs into a Rotweiler, perhaps (7)
 - 4 Dislikes Barnaby in Gilbert and Sullivan (7)
 - 5 Put repulsive animal skin around us (7)
 - 6 Continue playing the historian (5)
 - 7 A person wanted to look like this, perhaps (9)
 - 8 Rejected bet on horse at peak (5,4)
 - 9 Returns caricatures, retaining one drawing (5)
 - 10 Lightly strike the space bar (7)

Solution to Puzzle No 18,897

FLAGSTONE STAKE
A M P U X T X R
B A P O R T G R A P H M
N S T L I R I I
I N S E T A B U R A N O E
O I S E Y S
N O M I N A T E S T E M
D O N E A N G H O R E T
C O I T S E A
G R E E N H O U S E
L T O U D E L
A D O R I N G T I L L A G E
S U A H L E R S
B A T I N T H E O R I G I N S

- DOWN**
- 1 Withdraw subscription to the channel (7)
 - 2 Waiting for a delivery that's rising late (5,2)
 - 3 Create dress for jury (9)
 - 4 Tidy hospital in Wales (5)
 - 5 Prepare to publish legal action about litter (3,4)
 - 6 Fully occupied securing the right illustrations (7)
 - 7 Stories correctly expressed can be put in different words (12)
 - 8 The modulation of her voice was a help in reading the scripts (7,5)
 - 9 The Ecu, receiving German agreement near the end, is suddenly let out (9)
 - 10 A step-up spread in Sweden (7)
 - 11 Loose woman making pounds in army unit (7)
 - 12 The material demonstrated is on easy terms initially (7)
 - 13 First reader introducing maiden is more prudish (7)
 - 14 Musical composition from the scriptures in the opera house (5)

Concise Crossword, page 9
Life & Times section

WORLD-WATCHING
A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?
By Philip Howard

SQUALLS
a. Southern game birds
b. Refined female speakers
c. A form of idyllic
GAMELAN
a. A colorful monkey
b. A Portuguese admiral
c. An Eastern xylophone
PLACKET
a. A piece of exasperation
b. A flask-jacket pocket
c. To rustle like tulle
RABAT
a. The Moroccan hare
b. A Royal Artillery mascot
c. A carpenter's plane

Answers on page 12

Northern Ireland will start bright with any showers dying out in the afternoon. Scotland will be cloudy with patchy rain, heaviest in the north and northeast, becoming brighter from the southwest. England and Wales will be cloudy with patchy drizzle but turning drier and brighter during the morning. Temperatures around or above normal but cooler near windward coasts. Outlook: changeable with rain or showers, heaviest in the North and West.

MIDDAY: Thursday, 6-8 p.m., 10-12 p.m. again, about 10-12 p.m. in all other cities				Sun. Rain		Max.	
C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F
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Algeria	16	61	Moscow	20	68	127	51
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THE TIMES BUSINESS

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TUESDAY APRIL 21 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

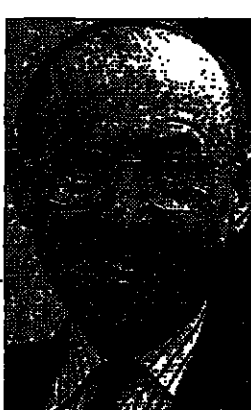
MAN OF THE WEEK

James checks in for long haul

Ding dong. Dan Air would like to inform shareholders of a delay to the departure of David James, its scheduled service to a profitable future.

Dan-Air, delays, and an overcrowded Gatwick airport — it is hard to imagine a package holiday without them. Even the groans greeting the delays have an air of inevitability. But the announcement that David James, chairman of Davies & Newman, Dan-Air's parent, has delayed his departure is more likely to be met with cheers, especially from D&N's long-suffering shareholders. For Dan-Air is changing and the man doing the changing is Mr James.

According to the peripatetic, love'em and leave'em lifestyle of the



James: delay cheered

company doctor, tomorrow's results should have seen him long gone. D&N's financial future was secured six months ago when he sought £40 million of new equity to repair the ravages of recession and war and coolly came up with £54 million. The perfect moment to fly off into the corporate sunset leaving shareholders bathed in admiration.

Mr James, however, appears to have caught the flying bug and will tomorrow confirm that he is there for the long haul, not just as chairman of D&N but also of the airline. The day to day piloting he will pass on to John Olsen, the former Cathay Pacific manager who began work as Dan-Air's chief executive last week. But Mr James plans to keep in close radio contact.

Just how long a haul it might be should also become apparent with losses of £35 million forecast and possibly more given the harsh climate that has coincided with the airline's shift from charters to scheduled services. The more permanent relationship will cost Mr James dear. His £1,000 a day consultancy fee will fall to £90,000 a year, although Mr Olsen's arrival should leave him with time to tackle Lep Group, his next and doubtless lucrative reconstruction. But in the mean time all he wants to hear is "Dan-Air, you are cleared for financial take-off." But it wouldn't be the same with a little delay.

MATTHEW BOND

Indiana firm will take month to decide

US visit fuels jobs hope at Ravenscraig

BY MARTIN WALLER AND KERRY GILL

AN AMERICAN company is today visiting the Ravenscraig steel plant, near Glasgow, which is due to close in September. It might consider making an offer for parts of the site that could save some hundreds of the plant's 1,200 jobs.

The visit by Nucor, an Indiana steel company, has been organised by Scottish Enterprise, formerly the Scottish Development Agency. Scottish Enterprise was entrusted with marketing the site when British Steel decided in January to close the plant.

It is clear, however, that there can never be a return to the days when Ravenscraig employed thousands of people and was one of Scotland's centres of industrial production. Nucor has only limited plans for the site.

America's seventh-largest steel producer, Nucor is known to have a foothold in Europe and was approached by Scottish Enterprise some months ago. A team of seven arrives today to look into the viability of steelmaking using

new technology at Ravenscraig. It will also visit the linked Hunterston one terminal, on the Ayrshire coast, during a six-day tour.

Details of the trip have been kept secret and British Steel made Nucor sign a confidentiality document. British Steel is playing down the chances of a last-ditch rescue, describing Nucor's visit as "a pre-feasibility study".

Keith Busse, Nucor's vice-president and general manager, said: "We are going to look at the viability and financial production of liquid steel. We will be at Ravenscraig for two full days and will also visit Hunterston before departing on Sunday."

He said findings would be evaluated at the company's headquarters and it would be a month before a firm decision could be reached to establish a liquid steel production works on the site.

Nucor's interest will be seized on as a chance to provide a modest number of jobs. If nothing comes of it, only the plate rolling mill at near-by Dalzell will be left in Scotland. Even if the American

company establishes a works in Scotland, it could not compensate for the jobs that will go when British Steel shuts Ravenscraig. Up to 15,500 jobs could be lost in local support industries.

Scottish Enterprise and Lanarkshire development agency are working on regeneration schemes for the area. In the mid-1970s, Ravenscraig employed 13,000 people. The announcement by British Steel that the steel complex would be closed was followed by a pledge from John Major that the government would do all it could to cushion central Scotland's economy.

Nucor operates several so-called mini-mills, taking on scrap steel and melting it down into slabs that are sent to rolling mills. Such plants, producing about a million tonnes a year, employ at best a few hundred people.

Ravenscraig, by contrast, has a much longer production line, taking in iron ore and coking coal at Hunterston, producing iron and then steel, which is rolled into strips. Capacity is three million tonnes of steel a year.

British Steel accepts that if Nucor is interested in taking over the site, or buying facilities there, the Americans must be given a hearing. If no offer comes, British Steel insists that Ravenscraig must close in September. British Steel has already, with Scottish Enterprise, looked at the site being used by other industries. It has commissioned an environmental audit of what needs to be done to convert it to other uses.



The troubled mill

Early days yet for studying incentives

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

THE management at Nucor Corporation, America's seventh-largest steelmaker, yesterday told *The Times* that the company had not yet discussed any incentives that might be available to save jobs at Ravenscraig.

Kenneth Iverson, Nucor chairman and chief executive, confirmed from his headquarters in Indiana that the move was in its early stages. "We have a team there studying the detail and looking at the feasibility of building a thin slab casting mill at Ravenscraig."

Mr Iverson declined to comment on whether the company would be offered incentives to set up at Ravenscraig. "We haven't even started talking about that yet," he said, adding that the company had responded to approaches from Scotland. "We did not seek it. The Scottish Development Agency came to

us," he said. Jeremy Bray, MP for Motherwell South, first approached Nucor some months ago. He flew to Indiana in February to look at Nucor's thin-slab casting mini-mill at Crawfordsville, the only one of its kind in the world. In a report to the SDA in 1991, Arthur D Little, the consultant, said such a mill was one option for Ravenscraig, but added the proviso that the technology involved was not fully proven.

"We have not set ourselves on making a decision," said Mr Iverson. "We will just move as rapidly as possible." But even if Nucor decides to go ahead, some hundreds of jobs will be lost.

Mr Iverson says the process it is considering needs less than half the jobs of traditional steel rolling. Any attempt by Nucor to revitalise Ravenscraig would be its first venture outside America.

Cost of bomb 'less than £1bn'

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE Association of British Insurers said that the IRA bomb explosion in the City of London this month will cost the insurance industry "hundreds of millions" but no more than £1 billion.

It is still too early to give accurate forecasts for the size of the loss while repair work continues at the 45 companies affected by the bomb. However, if the association's forecast is accurate, the cost of blast would exceed the £600 million cost of the 1989 San Francisco earthquake.

The insurance of the build-

ings most affected by the blast are thought to be well spread around the London and international markets. The insurance of the Commercial Union building was led by the Commercial Union. It is not known how much of the risk the company has retained.

Business interruption claims, which make up the bulk of the losses when explosions hit oil refineries or chemical plants, are thought likely to be limited because of the relative ease with which office-based companies can transfer premises. Tony Bak-

er, the insurance association's head of public affairs, said yesterday that "the signs are" that insurance premiums would not be affected by the cost of the blast.

"Premiums have already gone up over the past couple of years and it should not be necessary to put them up again," Mr Baker said.

He described as "wildly inaccurate and unsubstantiated guesswork" earlier reports that the cost would be £1.8 billion, and that the affected insurers would be unable to pay.



In the cockpit: James Giles runs International Aerospace, which won an award for test pilots' courses

Another cash call likely for tunnel

BY OUR CITY STAFF

SHAREHOLDERS in Eurotunnel are braced for another rights issue of perhaps £500 million on Friday when the Channel tunnel operator reports results for 1991. Eurotunnel has so far secured a total of £8.9 billion in funds.

In the last trading statement in October, the company said it foresaw a peak funding of £8.05 billion in 1996. Since then it has said it would be unable to meet its target opening date of June 15 1993.

This month, Eurotunnel was told by an independent arbitration panel to pay £1.1m to the contractors' consortium, £50 million extra in scheduled payments. Eurotunnel has said it will appeal the order.

The company's consortium of 223 lending banks had assumed a November 1993 opening date. Some observers believe the delay cuts revenue projections by £200 million.

"They are running very tight," said Richard Hannah, transport analyst at UBS Phillips & Drew.

He does not exclude refinancing as an option and expects Eurotunnel to ask shareholders for an additional £500 million and banks for another £1 billion to £1.5 billion in loans.

Japanese banks, which provided some 30 per cent of Eurotunnel's loans, will be reluctant to commit fresh funds at a time when they are being squeezed at home, the City believes.

Tarmac, one of the main contractors, announced last week that it had sold some share options in Eurotunnel for a profit of £6 million, fearing a further cash-raising exercise.

Another analyst, Mark McVicar at County NatWest, said it was too early to assess how much more would be needed to complete the project. "Until we know the outcome of any settlement with TML, it is extremely difficult to say whether and how much Eurotunnel would have to borrow," he said.

"The best thing for all parties... is to get the thing finished and get cash flowing in. At the moment it's just a hole in the ground."

Wall Street hurt as Nikkei tumbles

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

DESPITE a flurry of official statements at the weekend designed to improve sentiment in the Tokyo stock market, the Nikkei 225 average dropped sharply yesterday, reinforcing fears that the Japanese market will remain volatile for some weeks.

The Nikkei average fell 509.33 points to close at 17,071.36, belying officially voiced optimism from senior government quarters.

The further gloom from Tokyo combined with profit-taking to knock Wall Street from record levels. After three consecutive records, powered by sharp increases in first-quarter profits, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 33.88 points by lunchtime, to 3,331.62. Some analysts have raised the possibility of a sustained Wall Street drop.

The most significant official statement concerning the Tokyo stock market came from Kichii Miyazawa, the prime minister, who said there may be an acceleration of plans to increase the weight of equities in the portfolio of the Pension Welfare Corporation, a public institution that manages pension funds for small enterprises.

Wall Street, page 16

Export awards at a record

BY DEREK HARRIS

A RECORD total of 127 Queen's Awards for export achievement have been given this year. There are also 38 winners of awards for technological achievement.

ICI won three awards, two of them for technological achievement. GEC-Marconi won a technology award for applying defence electronics expertise to satellite television receivers.

International Aerospace, of Cranfield, Bedfordshire, won an export award. The company, headed by James Giles, provides specialist training for test pilots.

Export awards also went to Nissan's United Kingdom car factory, Peugeot Talbot at Coventry and the Cosworth high-performance engines division of Vickers.

Businesses with fewer than 200 employees accounted for 65 per cent of awards. Invisible earners in the service industries accounted for 18 per cent of export winners.

Next year, there will be an award for products or processes benefiting the environment.

Special report, pages 19-24

Dozens of mortgages claim to save you money. But are they being economical with the truth?

To weigh up a mortgage, you need to look beyond the headlines. If you're borrowing a high proportion of the property's value, you should pay close attention to the mortgage indemnity insurance which will be required.

If the lender insists on a particular buildings and contents policy, you should examine it closely.

And if you're interested in an endowment mortgage, you should remember that most big banks and building societies, by law, are only allowed to offer you a single firm's policies — so you'll have to shop around if you want to see how they compare.

But if this all sounds a little tiresome, there is an alternative. At John Charcol, it's our job to take all of these factors into account — and then, as independent advisers, to recommend the mortgage and insurance which are right for you.

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THE POUND

US dollar 1.7470 (-0.0148)†
German mark 2.9131 (-0.0053)†
Exchange index 91.6 (-0.3)†

Bank of England official close (Thursday 4pm)

STOCK MARKET

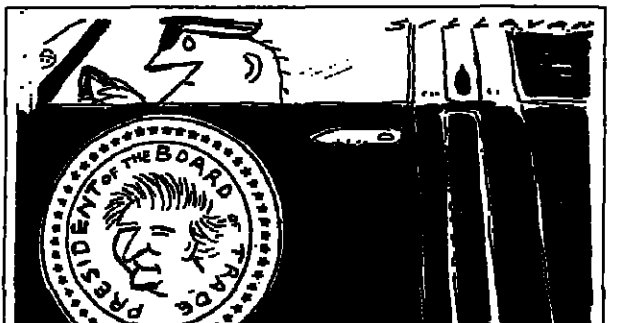
FT 30 share 2059.2 (+6.2)†
FT-SE 100 2638.6 (-1.6)†
New York Dow Jones 3347.27 (-19.23)†
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 17071.36 (-509.33)†
† Thursday's close midday price.

Export drive for the president

BY ROSS TIEMAN

THE trade and industry department's revolving door has spun so fast recently that ministers have frequently had their reputations caught in it. Michael Heseltine, who has been through it all before, is apparently seeking to escape the trap by calling himself president of the Board of Trade.

The restoration of this forgotten role gives the appearance of elevating Mr Heseltine beyond fellow secretaries of state, though his salary, £63,047, is no different. The former minister for Liverpool's regeneration is now a roving ambassador charged with restoring Britain's might as a trading nation. If Mr Heseltine makes



the post more than a sincere, British industry will be delighted. For more than a decade, exporters have complained about governments whose free market icons ignored the brutal realities of overseas competition. For many, privatisation of the parts of the Exports Credits

Guarantee Department (ECGD) was the final straw. British export credit premium rates, calculated as a percentage of the contract price, are the highest among the main trading nations.

A British firm seeking state protection of overseas contracts pays an 8.7 per

RIVA looks to improve with Dace at helm

RIVA, the troubled electronic point-of-sale (epos) equipment supplier, is hoping that better days lie ahead as David Dace, a non-executive director of ICL, takes the helm as non-executive chairman.

Mr Dace, 56, has 35 years' experience in the computer industry and was ICL's technical director until December. He joins Riva as shareholders prepare to vote on refinancing proposals that would leave the company's banks with 17.3 per cent of the enlarged share capital after a debt-for-equity swap.

Talks between Riva and its principal banks began after the company breached banking facilities in the final quarter of 1991 because of adverse trading conditions that left it unable to meet interest payments.

The difficulties can be traced to late 1989 when Riva acquired Hugin Sweden, an Anglo-Swedish manufacturer of Epos equipment, for about £3 million. It was later found that Hugin Sweden had previously undiscovered liabilities of up to £12 million. At the time of the acquisition, Riva owed its principal lenders about £15.5 million. This was cut to £8.5 million.

After losing £697,000 before tax in 1989, the company earned profits of £778,000 in 1990 before the full extent of Hugin's problems surfaced. These were compounded by the recession in Britain, where important retailing customers stopped trading and others cut capital expenditure. As a result, Riva incurred an interim pre-tax loss of £1.07 million in the six months to the end of June. After failing to meet interest payments, Riva secured a standstill agreement as a prelude to refinancing proposals, which should result in an annual saving of £800,000 in interest charges.

These proposals, to be considered by shareholders at an extraordinary meeting next month, include the purchase by Tom Milne, the outgoing chairman, of debts of £659,481 owed by Riva to Scandinavia Bank. Mr Milne will advance a further £197,700 of his own money to Riva. Additionally, the banks and Mr Milne will convert debts of £4.22 million owed by Riva into convertible preference shares; the banks, meanwhile, will extend £6.25 million of term facilities.

The refinancing will dilute the investment of existing shareholders. But the company gives a warning that it is unlikely to be able to continue trading otherwise. Investors, who have seen the value of their shares shrink from 41p to 10p in the past year, will be inclined to agree that there is no other way forward.

MARTIN BARROW

Expansion in sight after drastic surgery

Strong medicine from the doctor nursing Stakis back to health

Martin Waller outlines the style of the man who brought Stakis back from the brink of disaster

FOR Stakis, one of the true basket cases in a leisure sector not short of corporate disasters a couple of years ago, to be talking in terms of expansion again might seem nothing short of a miracle.

The architect of that recovery is Sir Lewis Robertson, one of that breed of company doctors unashamedly replacing high-flying entrepreneurs at the City's dining tables of late, and as a canny Scot he is only talking cautiously expansion, mind. The group is considering bringing in an outside partner to ensure sufficient firepower to develop its promising nursing homes.

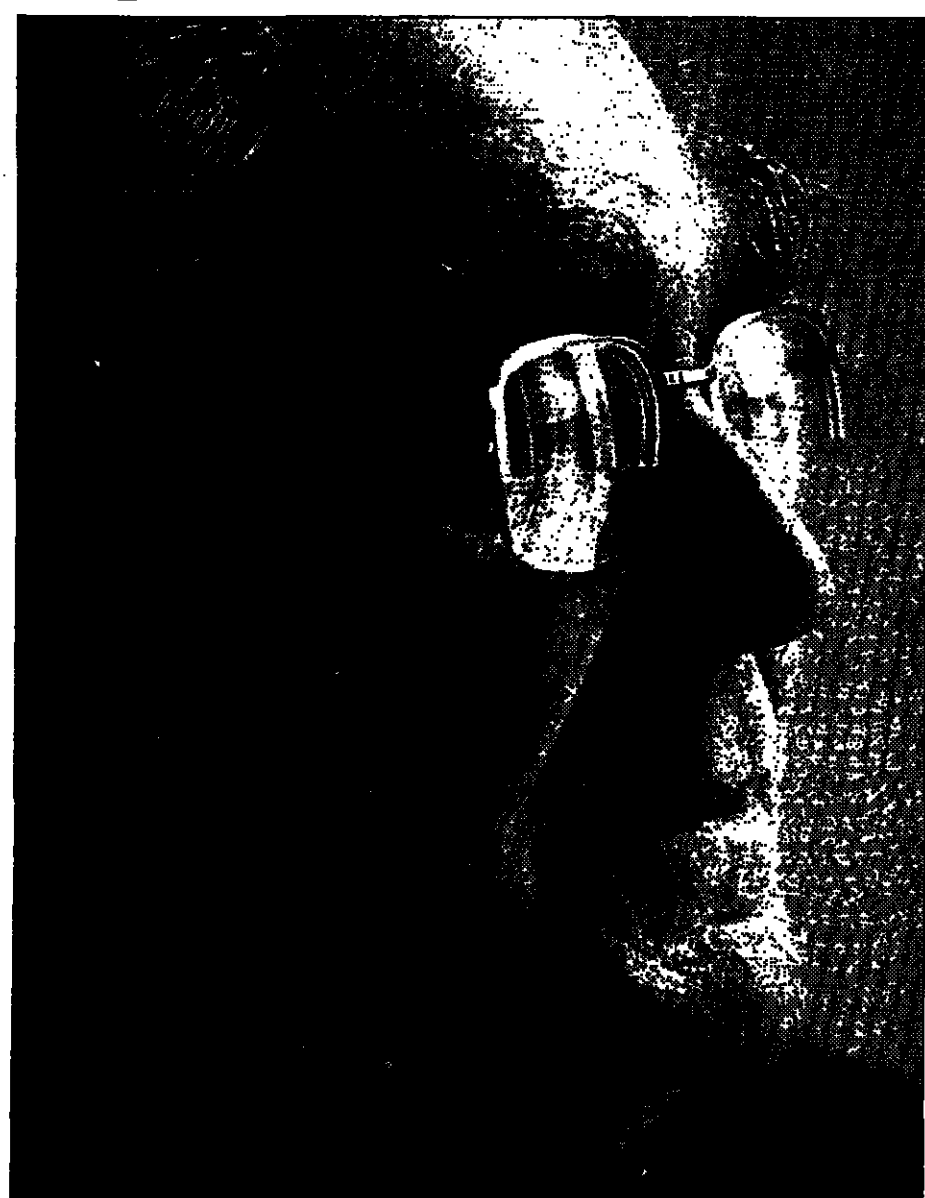
So far Stakis has been approached by a big player in the American market, which is much more mature than in Britain, attracted by the potential and the 18 sites, mainly in the South East, with full planning permission lying idle while the group restructures its finances.

Stakis is looking at the Continent and in particular southern countries such as Spain, where attachment to the extended family is weakening but where they are still not as used to the idea of nursing homes as Britain or America.

The 18 sites are in the books at the full £35 million purchase price and one of the few items not written down since Sir Lewis arrived 14 months ago. If developed, at £3 million a site, they would double the number Stakis operates, concentrated at the top end of the market at premium locations in leafy suburbs able to command room rates of £340 a week.

Despite the group's dire financial state, with borrowings fast approaching £200 million at one stage, Stakis has held out against selling the sites just as the three-year-old nursing homes operation approaches maturity, and the benefits, in the form of a 17 per cent return on capital employed, become apparent.

Stakis was the creation of Sir Leo Stakis, one of Scotland's best-known businessmen, but the company's de-



Architect of recovery: Sir Lewis Robertson, chairman of the Stakis group

cline dates from the policy of diversification initiated a few years ago by his son, Andros. Sir Lewis concedes that one of those diversifications was the successful nursing home venture, but there is clearly love lost between the two men since the ousting of Andros as chief executive, one of the chairman's first acts. Andros is rumoured to be still sitting

in his Renfrewshire fastness, nursing hopes of a successful restoration of the dynasty. Sir Lewis is scathing about the mess he inherited and the need for Andros' rapid departure. "I didn't have time to give him a two-year management degree."

He says the first problem was the proliferation of banks that had to be kept sweet

during restructuring, 22 in all for a group whose turnover in its heyday never threatened £200 million. Like many of the groups that expanded fast in the 1980s boom years, funds were taken wherever they could be found, and some of the smaller lenders had been granted covenants quickly triggered when the company declined. "That's not relationship banking — that's opportunistic banking. When the wind changes and things get tough, those banks can turn on you."

The next job was to find a chief executive, in the shape of David Michels, former deputy chairman of Hilton UK, who came on board in December. Since Sir Lewis arrived, he estimates 98 per cent of the senior management that had made Stakis so top-heavy have gone, along with their experts. Also gone are a slew of public houses and discotheques and a third of the commercial property. A significant reverse was the failure to sell the casinos for up to £100 million in a market knocked for six by the Gulf war, recession and forced offloading of clubs by other groups. "Selling the casinos was a quick fix for our financing problems. If that wasn't available, they are again entirely loved and wanted," says Sir Lewis.

Analysts say Stakis is not yet entirely out of the woods. Interim figures due on June 9 will not be pretty, and full-year profits are unlikely. But at least the wilder bid talk has died down, although this may merely reflect a general aversion to buying hotels.

The Stakis rescue is Sir Lewis's seventh and, casinos aside, has gone by the book. So well qualified is he to write that book that he heads Postern, a group of company doctors put together for rescues. It is a sign of the times that while 1980s heroes were hit squads of accountants smashing their way into underperforming companies, the corporate SWAT teams of the 1990s are more likely to be putting right the damage

Budget deficit may scare off foreign investors

The election was a watershed for the market in gilts. Sizeable pent-up demand from domestic and foreign investors has been unleashed. Currency risk and fears of temporarily higher interest rates have been replaced by expectations of a firm anti-inflationary policy, including a move to ERM narrow bands.

Monetary union (EMU) remains the main driving force behind European bond markets, forcing convergence of bond yields. The key measure for gilts is the spread over Bunds. There has been a dramatic reversal since the election, with the spread of ten-year gilts over ten-year Bunds narrowing from a peak of 203 to 123 basis points. With sterling appreciating, the immediate outlook for gilts is positive and the spread over Bunds should narrow further.

There is, however, too much optimism about the prospects for EMU. The economic convergence criteria for EMU are extremely tough and, judging from the recent deterioration in budgetary positions throughout Europe, may take longer to achieve than envisaged. Furthermore, the trade-off for monetary union is likely to be continued tight monetary policies, leading to persistently high unemployment throughout Europe. This is already leading to political tensions elsewhere, increasing the likelihood of an ERM realignment and possibly leading to a delay in the monetary union process.

UK political stability should, thus, give gilts a boost relative to other European bond markets, particularly in the run-up to monetary union. Longer dated gilts are likely to benefit from the policy stance resulting from the election. I expect policy to remain tight for some time. This is because there will be a need to reduce inflation and the budget deficit. Government policy will also be heavily influenced by the need to move the economic

and political cycles back into synchronisation. After the 1987 election the government relaxed policy prematurely and it will not want to repeat that mistake. A lesson may be seen from the American economy last year, when a large rebound in consumer confidence after the Gulf war was interpreted as an end to recession. That optimism was misplaced as the factors that caused the recession remained in place, and the American economy weakened further.

Although an early UK rate cut cannot be ruled out, sustained recovery is unlikely until real interest rates are significantly lower. However, latest inflation figures suggest the government will not lower rates aggressively. Retail price inflation excluding mortgage interest payments remains high, at an annual rate of 5.7 per cent in March. Service sector inflation is particularly high. Furthermore, producer output prices, excluding food, drink and tobacco, rose by a monthly rate of 0.4 per cent in February and March, highlighting the risk that any rebound in the economy could prompt producers and retailers to rebuild profit margins.

The trouble is that unless interest rates fall and there is a steady recovery, the budget deficit is likely to deteriorate. Already, the scale of the fiscal problem points to the likelihood of significant restraint in government spending in this year's autumn statement. Bank of England figures show that last year foreign investors bought a net £5.4 billion of gilts, compared with total net official sales of £9.2 billion.

They are expected to increase their holdings this year. If the problem on the budget deficit is not addressed, however, this will overshadow all the present good news for gilts and foreign demand could dwindle.

GERARD LYONS
DKB International

Domestic orders halt the slide

BY MARTIN WALLER AND NEIL BENNETT

THE London Chamber of Commerce and Industry has reported the first rise in domestic orders in two years and the first positive sign that the recession has begun to lift in the manufacturing sector.

But its latest economic trends survey covering more than 250 companies and conducted before the general election, counterbalances this optimism with an unexpected setback for service sector businesses and output falling again, albeit at a slower rate, for the eighth consecutive quarter. The Chamber says

30 per cent of manufacturers reported a fall in domestic orders in the first quarter, but 38 per cent saw a rise. Surprisingly, 34 per cent of service businesses saw a fall in business and just 27 per cent an increase.

"The setback in the service sector could be explained by uncertainties caused by the general election, when businesses and consumers postponed vital decisions," said Jacqueline Ginnane, chief economist at the LCCI. The Chamber says the rate at which businesses lay off work-

ers is set to decline in the second quarter.

According to a report by Verdict, the market research group, consumers have become more sophisticated in their use of credit. Non-mortgage credit, however, continues to rise, although growth has fallen sharply. In the first quarter of 1989 loans rose £1.66 billion. In the last three months of 1991 growth was £67 million.

Verdict on how Britain pays (£695), from Verdict Research 112 High Holborn, London, WC1.

Edinburgh urges Lang to back Eurofed claim

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

IAN Lang, Secretary of State for Scotland, is being urged to support a campaign to bring the proposed European Central Bank, or Eurofed, to Edinburgh.

The Scottish capital, London and Manchester are likely to put in bids, but they face competition from a range of European financial centres including Paris, Lyons, Frankfurt, Luxembourg and Amsterdam.

The "Eurofed for Scotland" campaign is being led by a

steering group made up of local government and business representatives.

James Scott, the executive director of Scottish Financial Enterprise, a body representing Scotland's financial sector, has written to Mr Lang asking him to advance Edinburgh's case "with vigour" within the government.

The decision on the Eurofed is unlikely to be made until next year, but the UK contenders are thought to stand little chance.

The Dow Jones industrial average recovered from its worst level of 3,340, to be 21 points off at 3,345 at mid session. "I see small sellers out there, but no one is being overly aggressive," said Ron Doran, head of institutional trading at CL King and Associates. Some sell programmes at the opening drove the market lower,

he said. "The market looks a little tired, but the recycling of money from maturing bank certificates of deposit will give us some stabilisation," he said.

LT Tokyo — The Nikkei index edged to the 17,000 level on some last-minute buying, but by the close had lost 509.33 points at 17,071.36.

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19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	Jul 31	Jul 30	Jul 29	Jul 28	Jul 27	Jul 26	Jul 25	Jul 24	Jul 23	Jul 22	Jul 21	Jul 20	Jul 19	Jul 18	Jul 17	Jul 16	Jul 15	Jul 14	Jul 13	Jul 12	Jul 11	Jul 10	Jul 9	Jul 8	Jul 7	Jul 6	Jul 5	Jul 4	Jul 3	Jul 2	Jul 1	Jun 30	Jun 29	Jun 28	Jun 27	Jun 26	Jun 25	Jun 24	Jun 23	Jun 22	Jun 21	Jun 20	Jun 19	Jun 18	Jun 17	Jun 16	Jun 15	Jun 14	Jun 13	Jun 12	Jun 11	Jun 10	Jun 9	Jun 8	Jun 7	Jun 6	Jun 5	Jun 4	Jun 3	Jun 2	Jun 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 2
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Portfolio
PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall gain or loss. If it matches the daily dividend figure, it is correct. If it does not, you will find the error on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Category	Group	Gain or loss
1	Bank	Bank	
2	Chemicals	Chemicals	
3	Electronics	Electronics	
4	Food	Food	
5	Health	Health	
6	Insurance	Insurance	
7	Media	Media	
8	Oil	Oil	
9	Property	Property	
10	Retail	Retail	
11	Services	Services	
12	Telecom	Telecom	
13	Transport	Transport	
14	Utilities	Utilities	
15	Wine	Wine	
16	World	World	
17	Other	Other	
18	Unassigned	Unassigned	
19	Unassigned	Unassigned	
20	Unassigned	Unassigned	
21	Unassigned	Unassigned	
22	Unassigned	Unassigned	
23	Unassigned	Unassigned	
24	Unassigned	Unassigned	
25	Unassigned	Unassigned	
26	Unassigned	Unassigned	
27	Unassigned	Unassigned	
28	Unassigned	Unassigned	
29	Unassigned	Unassigned	
30	Unassigned	Unassigned	
31	Unassigned	Unassigned	
32	Unassigned	Unassigned	
33	Unassigned	Unassigned	
34	Unassigned	Unassigned	
35	Unassigned	Unassigned	
36	Unassigned	Unassigned	
37	Unassigned	Unassigned	
38	Unassigned	Unassigned	
39	Unassigned	Unassigned	
40	Unassigned	Unassigned	
41	Unassigned	Unassigned	
42	Unassigned	Unassigned	
43	Unassigned	Unassigned	
44	Unassigned	Unassigned	
45	Unassigned	Unassigned	
46	Unassigned	Unassigned	
47	Unassigned	Unassigned	
48	Unassigned	Unassigned	
49	Unassigned	Unassigned	
50	Unassigned	Unassigned	

Please take into account any minor signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily share price for the weekly dividend of £4,000 on Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

The winner of the weekly Portfolio Platinum prize of £4,000 is Mr Raymond Newman, of Haydock, near St Helens, Merseyside.

Mid cap	Company	Price	Way	Net	Yld	Div	P/E
100	Alloy	1.11	+	0.01	5.5	8.2	14.5
100	Alloy	1.11	+	0.01	5.5	8.2	14.5
100	Alloy	1.11	+	0.01	5.5	8.2	14.5
100	Alloy	1.11	+	0.01	5.5	8.2	14.5
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QUEEN'S AWARDS

Broadening the excellence field

A new environment award will join the Queen's Awards for industrial achievement in technology and export, Derek Harris reports

The 26-year-old Queen's Awards for export and technological achievement are about to go through their biggest change since 1976, the year the awards were split in two.

The total number of Queen's Awards given for 1992 was 165, above the general level of the last decade and ahead of last year's 158. Applications for the 1992 awards were the highest for 13 years. There was a record number of 127 awards for export achievement as British business, from manufacturers big and small to universities and other services, strove to beat the recession by maximising sales abroad. Thirty-eight companies secured an award for technological achievement. There were 1,565 applicants for this year's awards, a 37 per cent increase on 1991.

A further award is now to be introduced: the Queen's Award for environmental achievement. A clutch of companies favoured this year by the Queen's Awards office have environmental aspects to their work and at least four would have received such an award, had one been on offer. This has encouraged the office to believe that the new environmental award should readily attract attention.

The new environmental trophy was first signalled in January by the prime minister. It builds on the pioneering work of the Royal Society of Arts with its Better Environment awards for industry.

The aim of the new Queen's Award is to recognise and encourage product and process development which will bring important environmental benefits. Companies will have to show that the initiatives are commercially successful. The first winners will be announced in April next year, along with those securing export and technology awards.

It is not uncommon for a few companies to secure both an export and technology award in the same year. Last year, three companies scored a double, but in the 1992 awards nobody managed this. The prospect of a company landing a treble is remote, although it is theoretically possible. However, a successful product or process with environmental impact could quite likely lead to an export award. It is already a familiar pattern for those picking up technology awards, as this year's list demonstrates.

The most prolific winners of awards over the years have been ICI and GEC, through the achievements of their many subsidiaries. GPT Payphone Systems, jointly owned by Britain's General Electric Company (GEC) and Germany's Siemens, secured a technology award last year, and a trophy this year for exporting to more than 60 telephone operators in nearly 50 countries. It manufactures intelligent payphones, phonecards, management systems and cashless calling systems.

ICI's Katalo Puraspet Purification Processes subsidiary has also



Arbiter of export and technological excellence in industry: John Smith, secretary of the Queen's Awards office, displays the trophies

picked up an export award, after winning on technological merits last year. This is one of three ICI awards, the others being for technological achievement in the pharmaceutical and agrochemical fields.

GEC's Marconi Electronics this year has scooped a technology award as part of its burgeoning defence-related programmes.

The verdict of the Queen's Awards office on the 1992 applications was that quality was very high, especially among the exporters. What helped boost the applications was a mailshot which brought a 3 per cent response high for this type of promotion. The technique may be used again.

Strong export sectors included high technology, electronics, transport and textiles. Among the clothing manufacturer export winners is

J. Barbour and Sons, established in the north east in 1894 and producers of the legendary oiled-cotton "Barbour" country clothing.

There was a strong automotive showing, including the Rover group (a technology award for its K-series engine); Nissan's UK subsidiary (it exports to 29 countries, including Japan); Peugeot Talbot (the UK arm of France's Peugeot and a strong exporter); and the Osoworth high-performance engine division of Vickers (the engines of which have figured in motor racing, as well as equipping top-of-the-range road cars for several manufacturers).

Aerospace awards involved companies such as British Aerospace (for commercial aircraft exports) and Rolls-Royce, with its battle to maintain a key market share of tough aircraft engine markets.

Another was International Aerospace, a Bedfordshire-based company which trains pilots and flight engineers in advanced techniques so that they can become test pilots or flight-test engineers.

Agriculture had a bigger showing than usual, with four awards involving sector companies.

Smaller businesses account for a big swathe of the awards, with 68 per cent of export trophies going to companies with fewer than 200 employees. Smaller companies also account for 55 per cent of those securing technology awards. Overall, 65 per cent of awards were taken up by smaller businesses, down a little on last year's 70 per cent.

Invisible earnings by service providers accounted for 18 per cent of the export winners, a bigger proportion than last year.

Head of a growing class

John Smith is in charge of the awards' expansion

JOHN SMITH, a career civil servant with 16 years of service at the trade and industry department, took over a year ago as secretary of the Queen's Award Office, writes Derek Harris.

Mr Smith, 50, was formerly at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, with stints abroad. At the trade and industry department, he has been concerned mostly with commercial relations and export promotion, notably in west and north Africa and in Europe, especially in the EFTA (European Free Trade Association) countries.

As the secretary, Mr Smith presides over a new expansion of the awards. A third one will be added later this year for companies demonstrably improving environmental quality through manufacturing or processes which have shown themselves to be commercially successful.

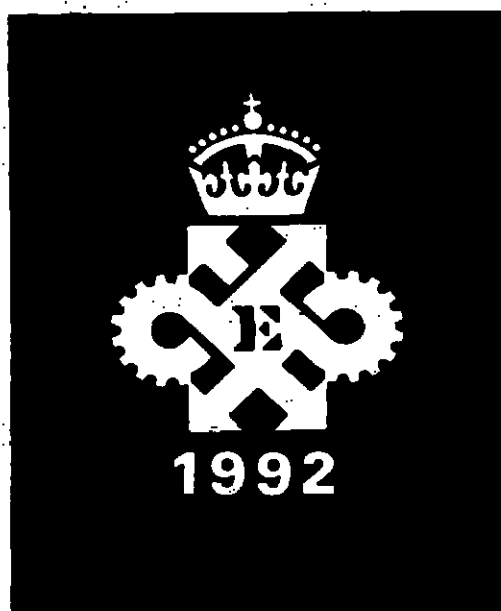
Material advantage

Remploy, the employer of disabled workers, has trebled its knitwear overseas earnings in four years as it has widened its markets for military clothing and diversified into fashion, writes Derek Harris.

French gendarmes sport the sweaters (shown right) and American marines the ceremonial scarves produced by Remploy's knitwear division headquartered in Alfreton, Derbyshire. The Japanese can buy the goods on mail order. A second collection of fashion knitwear, for which Remploy has teamed up with couturier Hardy Amies, will be launched this autumn.



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East and West in harmony

Rodney Hobson reports on an Anglo-Japanese joint venture

Subsidiaries set up in the United Kingdom by foreign companies, particularly by the Japanese and Americans, are now winning awards for exports.

Kemble & Company is a joint venture between the Yamaha Corporation of Japan, the world's largest musical instrument manufacturers, and the Kemble family, who have been manufacturing high-quality acoustic pianos since 1911. The combined export sales of the Kemble and Yamaha brands has more than doubled over the past three years to nearly £5 million in 1991.

Kemble started manufacturing the first Yamaha model in 1987. After the success of the pilot project, Yamaha, seeking a European manufacturing partner ahead of the single market, chose Kemble in 1988 to be its European manufacturing base for up-right pianos. At the same time Yamaha invested in Kemble to increase capacity and to introduce the latest machinery and computer-based production control.

The partnership, based in Milton Keynes, flourished as a result of high-quality British craftsmanship and Yamaha knowhow in production tech-



Making music: Kemble & Co's joint managing directors, Brian Kemble and Shinya Nakamichi, are mixing British craft and Yamaha knowhow

nology, along with strong support from Yamaha's European distribution companies.

Yamazaki Machinery UK makes computerised machine tools as a subsidiary of Yamazaki Mazak of Japan. It was established as a sales unit in 1981 and opened a factory at Worcester in 1987.

Kyushu Matsushita Electric (UK) has made great strides

since starting business in 1986 in Newport, Gwent. It makes printers, typewriters and telephones, exporting mainly to the European Community and the United States.

Helena Laboratories was established in 1984 as a sales company for the products of its American parent. In 1986, from a trading estate in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, it

began to produce a range of diagnostic kits for testing blood for a variety of conditions, together with the laboratory instruments for conducting the tests. The British company has built up an export trade in British products to Europe, Africa, India, the Middle East and the Pacific region. Overseas sales account for half the output.

Another company with an American parent is Hewitt-Robins International, a subsidiary of Process Technology based in North Carolina. The British end, in Glasgow, makes equipment for quarries, mines, steelworks and foundries.

International Rectifier, another subsidiary of a United States company, has been

trading since 1958 and makes power conductors for the electricity industry. New markets are being developed in eastern Europe.

Little Rock, Arkansas, is the home of Orbit Valve, whose British subsidiary is at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. Since 1973 it has been designing and making valves for the oil and gas industries.

Car makers on the right track

Foreign-owned manufacturers are honoured for export achievement

Three car manufacturers and several companies providing parts and back-up services receive awards (writes Rodney Hobson). The best-known names are Nissan of Japan and Peugeot of France, both foreign-owned and honoured for export achievements, and Rover, which gains the technology award.

The British subsidiary of Peugeot, based in Coventry, has been trading since 1980 and exports cars and parts to France. Other markets include Belgium, Spain, Australasia, the Far East, Africa and Pakistan, while new markets are being developed in Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Nissan has been trading in the United Kingdom since 1986, having set up shop in Sunderland. It exports cars to 29 countries, mainly in Europe, and sends cars to the Far East.

With Taiwan a main market and even Japan starting to take British-made models.

The company is seeking opportunities in the former Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Rover Power Train, Rover's subsidiary, gains the technology award for the development of the K-series engine. With its advanced lean-burn combustion, the K-series is capable of meeting all emission limits likely to be imposed in the foreseeable future. It also gives high performance and fuel economy.

The engine castings are of aluminium alloy. The design and construction methods allow high crankshaft speeds, while reducing vibration and extending the life of the bearings. Its developers tested 875 prototypes for a total of 73,000 hours, over two million miles.

Among companies supplying parts is G. Clancy, set up in Halesowen by its parent company Clancy Holdings in 1941. It makes machined components and castings for motor vehicles. Its leading export markets are Europe and the United States, with other outlets in Africa, the Middle East and the Far East. A new market is being established in South America.

Production is centred on a specially designed and built factory and office block on a five-acre site alongside the A38 trunk road at Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.

Tyres are produced for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles only, but the wide range includes tyres for high-performance sports and saloon cars for speeds up to 150mph. The tyres have to be produced to the same tough specifications as for new tyres.

The Cosworth Engineering division of Vickers, trading since 1958, designs, develops and manufactures high-performance car engines. It won an award in 1986. It exports racing engines to the United States, where they have featured in the Indianapolis 500, America's top car race, as well as Europe and Japan. Engines for road cars go to Germany and Belgium. The company also licences a specialised casting process which generates exports of specialist equipment and low-volume prototype components.

Also exporting to the racing world is Xtrac, a small firm at Wokingham, Berkshire. Its gears and transmission systems are used in Formula One racing and rallying. This company, too, has featured in the Indianapolis race. Its largest customers are Toyota, Mitsubishi, Mazda and Nissan, the Japanese car-makers.

Technic, an export award-winner, has achieved some remarkable growth in the five years since it was established to re-tread tyres. It has consistently exported its target of 30 per cent of its output, mainly to European Community countries and Scandinavia. The largest single market is Germany.

The company is one of the largest in its field, and the first of its type to win the export award. Technic was set up in 1987 by two engineers, Phil Blood and Tony Farmer, who are now joint managing directors. Turnover in the first year was £1.8 million and is now approaching £13 million. Output has risen from 3,000 tyres a week to 27,500 and the company employs 130.

Production is centred on a specially designed and built factory and office block on a five-acre site alongside the A38 trunk road at Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.



Speed merchants: Cosworth exports racing-car engines

Services without frontiers

For the first time, a patents and trademark agent has won an export award, while in another first an Isle of Man business has won a similar trophy (writes Derek Harris).

RGC Jenkins & Co, whose headquarters are at Caxton Street, London, is a patent and trademark specialist. Two thirds of its income comes from overseas clients. Its best markets are Japan, the United States, Canada, Europe, Australasia and South Korea. Earnings abroad have more than doubled in three years.

The Isle of Man's trophy-getter is a financial services company, Clerical Medical International Insurance. It was established on the island in 1987, as the international arm of the 168-year-old Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society, which is based in Bristol and has branches world-wide.

The Isle of Man operation increased net overseas earnings by more than five times in its first three years.

The only advertising company to pick up an award for exports is Aegis Group, the holding company for the world's largest group of media specialists. One contract is for Walt Disney's media planning and space and time-buying in every European market. Aegis is quoted on the stock exchanges of London, New York and Paris.

Export earnings, which have more than doubled over three years and now account for 95 per cent of Aegis's income, arise through Carat,



Winning solicitors: Nick Fisher (front) and Justin More

its main operating division. Carat employs 1,700 people in more than 50 offices spread across 18 countries.

Among other services sector companies netting export awards is More Fisher Brown, the second firm of solicitors ever to do so. The company, with offices in the City of London, is a small partnership set up in 1988 specialising in servicing the international marine and insurance industry, including arbitration work. Earnings spring from 58 countries and have trebled over three years, now accounting for 80 per cent of turnover.

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Winners clean up

A surge in the 1992 awards of trophy winners with products which have a strong environmental impact includes a number of firms in the energy business (writes Derek Harris). Among them is Vikoma International, based on the Isle of Wight, which won an award for export achievement.

Since its birth 20 years ago, when the problems of oil pollution at sea were first emerging, Vikoma has propelled itself to world prominence in making equipment to deal with oil pollution. Overseas sales account for 80 per cent of Vikoma's production. It makes booms and skimming devices which have been used in many big disasters, including the Exxon Valdez incident in Alaska in 1989 and the damage to Kuwait's oilfields in the Gulf war.

It has two manufacturing sites, at Cowes and at Wallasey on Merseyside. It employs about 150 and has grown steadily by 20 per cent a year in recent years.

There are at least seven award-winners with products



Going green: new award

having a direct environmental impact and others with an environmental aspect — for example, Rover's technology award-winning engine range with low emissions. The increasing prominence of environmentally-related products augurs well for the launch of the environmental Queen's Awards, to be unveiled next year.

A joint technology award has gone to the British Gas research and technology division in Birmingham and Hotwork Development of Dewsbury, West Yorkshire.

Hotwork, founded in 1962, was bought out by its management in 1988. The pair won a trophy for developing a regenerative burner system which can be used on all sizes of fuel-fired furnaces. It is especially useful for systems burning natural gas and oil as fuels. Its makers say it is cheap and easy to clean and can produce savings of up to 65 per cent, paying for itself within a year.

Original research at British Gas was followed by manufacturing at Hotwork. In three years sales rose to £4.5 million, a third of them abroad.

Another technology trophy in the energy sector went to Babcock Energy, of Renfrew, Strathclyde, for a burner system that reduces nitrous oxide emissions at coal-fired power stations. The burner reduces pollutant emissions by up to 55 per cent. The company's initiative has already won it an environmental award from the Engineering Council.

An export award has gone to Warwick International of Mosyn, Chwyd, which makes additives to improve the efficiency of low-temperature detergent powders and to boost the performance of detergents that are environmentally-friendly because they do not use phosphates. Since it last won an export award in 1988, Warwick has more than doubled its exports, which go to more than 40 countries.

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Derek Harris spots high fliers in the aerospace industry

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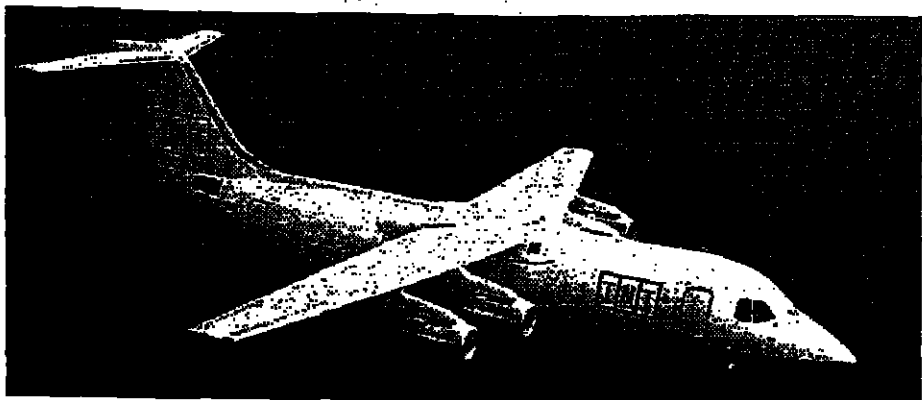
Derek Harris spots high flyers in the aerospace industry

Big guns among Britain's aerospace manufacturers figure strongly again, especially in the export awards, but a newcomer is a five-and-a-half year-old company, International Aerospace. The company honours the talents that go into making top-flight pilots and flight engineers capable of testing the latest aircraft, military and civil.

James Giles, managing director of International Aerospace, who was himself a test pilot, says it takes the cream of the crop to aspire to the top rank in flying. World-wide, only two commercial operators, International Aerospace in Britain and another company in the United States, offer training of a sufficiently high grade to meet military requirements as well as commercial needs in testing the capabilities of new aircraft.

There are even relatively few military providers of such high-grade training: two operations in the United States, one in the United Kingdom and another in France.

International Aerospace's main establishment is at Cranfield airfield in Bedfordshire but it also recently took over Imac's in-flight simulation. This almost doubled



In demand: British Aerospace has sold nearly 300 of its 146 short-haul jet airliners

turnover to about £5 million a year, of which 85 per cent is work from overseas. International Aerospace's earnings from the Far East, Europe and Scandinavia trebled in the past three years.

At Cranfield about eight new personnel are trained annually, roughly half of them pilots and the others flight engineers. Mr Giles says that it puts "a veneer of additional skill on top people". The courses include advanced aircraft handling techniques, avionics and simulation skills.

The civil engine business of Rolls-Royce, which recently clinched a £300 million contract to provide engines for Cathay Pacific's new Boeing 777 fleet, has scooped an export award as it fights for its share of one of the toughest international markets.

Rolls-Royce is ranged against the two key American manufacturers, Pratt & Whitney and General Electric (GE). There had been fears that Rolls-Royce might come a poor third in the race to power Boeing's new aircraft, a medium-range jet which is the only

Only the cream of the crop can aspire to flying's top rank — testing new aircraft

fresh design it will manufacture this decade, after British Airways decided to buy Pratt & Whitney engines.

The Cathay order gives Rolls-Royce a 28 per cent share of the 777 engines market, behind Pratt & Whitney but ahead of GE.

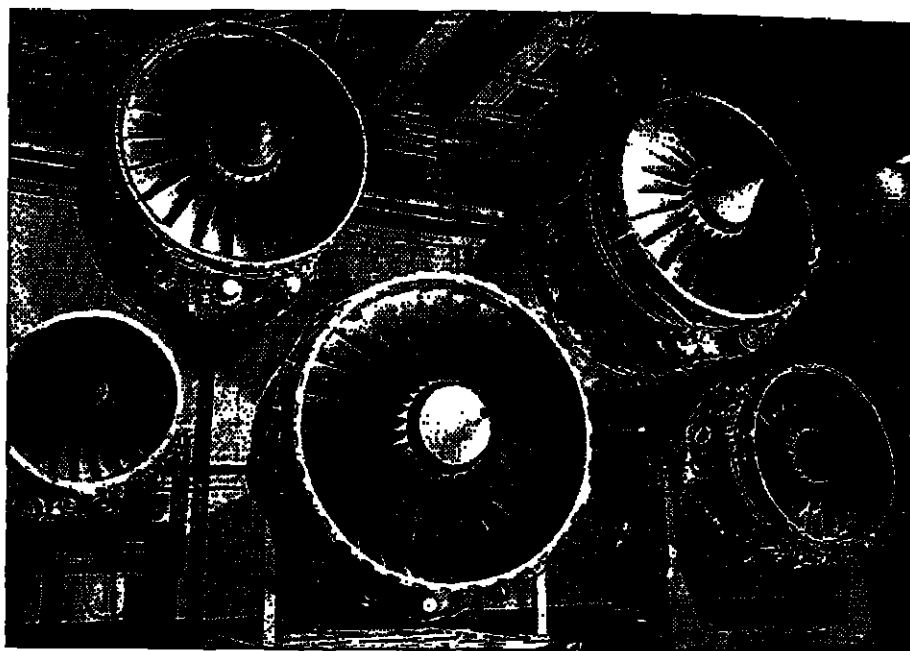
Rolls-Royce snatched the key order with its Trent 800,

which will be the most powerful engine yet built by the company. It has a maximum thrust of 80,000 lbs.

The Rolls-Royce order book for Trent now stands at 254 for all versions. If all options are included, it means there are £2 billion-worth of orders

in the pipeline. A slightly smaller version, the Trent 700, has been developed to power the Airbus A330, Boeing 777's European rival. The Rolls-Royce engine accounts for 41 per cent of A330 engine orders so far.

British Aerospace's commercial aircraft interests, recently split between three new divisions, have earned an export award for success with various commercial airlines and business jets. They have also supplied the wings for aircraft produced by the Air-



High and mighty: the Trent is in the centre of this display of Rolls-Royce engines

bus consortium, in which BAE has a 20 per cent stake. In 1988 BAE won a technology award for the wing design for the Airbus A320.

Last year there were 27 BAE 146 jet airliners ordered, worth about £385 million. BAE has sold close to 300 of these four-engine aircraft, which are short-haul airliners noted for quietness of operation. Its Jetstream airliners have also proved popular.

Dowty Aerospace, Gloucester, a subsidiary of the Dowty group, has won its second export award (the first was in 1980) for sales of aircraft

products such as landing gear, propellers and flaps. About 55 per cent of its sales are abroad. Last year it won a technology award for propeller design.

Another aerospace specialist with an export award is Dorset-based Penny & Giles Data Recorders, part of Penny & Giles International. It makes aircraft flight data recorders for military and civil use, including the armour-plated "black box" recorders intended to survive a crash and help unravel unresolved mysteries.

The company has seen steady annual sales growth of up to 15 per cent over the past

five years and exports now account for nearly two thirds of sales. Turnover jumped by a fifth last year.

L.A. Rumbold of Camberley in Surrey makes galleys and lavatory compartments for aircraft use. It won an export award last year and has now added another. It has doubled its exports in one year.

Aeroconcepts, of Horley, Surrey, which has won an export award, sells 80 per cent abroad. It stocks and distributes aeronautical components, mainly for British-built or British-equipped aircraft.

Cards do nicely overseas

Two companies involved in the production of plastic cards have won export awards (writes Rodney Hobson).

GPT Payphone Systems makes phonecards and payphones. Based in Liverpool, it is owned jointly by GEC and Siemens.

The equipment is easily adaptable for foreign currencies and is designed for all climates, thus allowing communications to be brought to remote locations.

GPT has exported to 60 telephone administrations in 48 countries. It won the technology award last year.

For Graceform, which trades as Oakwood Design, this is the second export award. The company designs and manufactures machinery for the production of bank cards, credit cards and telephone cards.

The Letchworth-based company recently pioneered the development of photo ID card systems for banks and in the security field to curb fraud. Two of its card systems incorporate video images of photographs. The company is at the forefront of the "smart card" business in which microchips are embedded in the cards.

The most important markets are North America and Europe but sales are now penetrating the Far East, particularly Singapore, Japan and South Korea, and eastern Europe. Earlier intensive marketing efforts in the former Eastern bloc are beginning to pay off, with new markets firmly established in Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Oakwood Design was formed in 1977 and is still a private company. It has financed its rapid growth entirely by its own efforts, without any government loans or outside assistance.

Sales have shown strong growth in the years since the first award was won in 1987. In that year, exports were just 58 per cent of the £1.6 million turnover. This has grown to 86 per cent of last year's £5.4 million sales.



Jam today: staff at award-winning Fortnum & Mason

Fortnum wins with tea and biscuits

Fortnum & Mason, the London store established on Piccadilly in 1707, is the oldest company to figure in the Queen's Awards list, earning an export trophy for mounting sales of high-quality British foodstuffs abroad (writes Derek Harris). It is one of a cluster of food and drink companies which have earned export awards.

Tea, biscuits and preserves are the key weapons used by Fortnum in its battle for overseas sales. The Japanese in particular, with their taste for prestige labels, have taken to Fortnum's offerings, and Pacific Rim countries have become as important to the company as the United States, Canada and Australasia. Fortnum & Mason now has

shops within shops in about a dozen leading department stores in Japan. It also has a restaurant in Mitsukoshi's main Tokyo store.

Fortnum & Mason has a long history of selling overseas (often to expatriates) and last year exports rose 47 per cent.

Substantial trade in fish to mainland European markets has been built up by Richard

Coulbeck out of the Grimsby fish docks on south Humber-side. The 17-year-old company has promoted the sale abroad of fish species not traditionally eaten in Britain, such as monkfish, dogfish and ling.

Scotprime Seafoods of Ayr, Scotland, has also increased fish exports this way. The fast-growing company, established

in 1988, trades in a variety of fish and other frozen seafood. It is a subsidiary of Bluecrest Foods, part of the Booker group of companies.

Lanarkshire-based Inver House Distillers, bought out by its managers in 1988, now sells whisky in about 50 overseas markets and exports are the biggest proportion of turnover.

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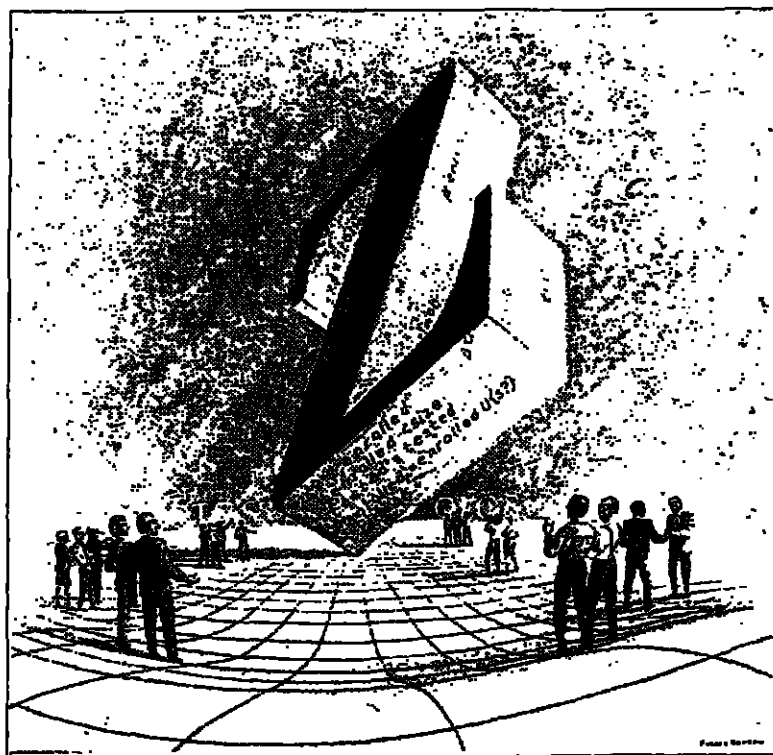
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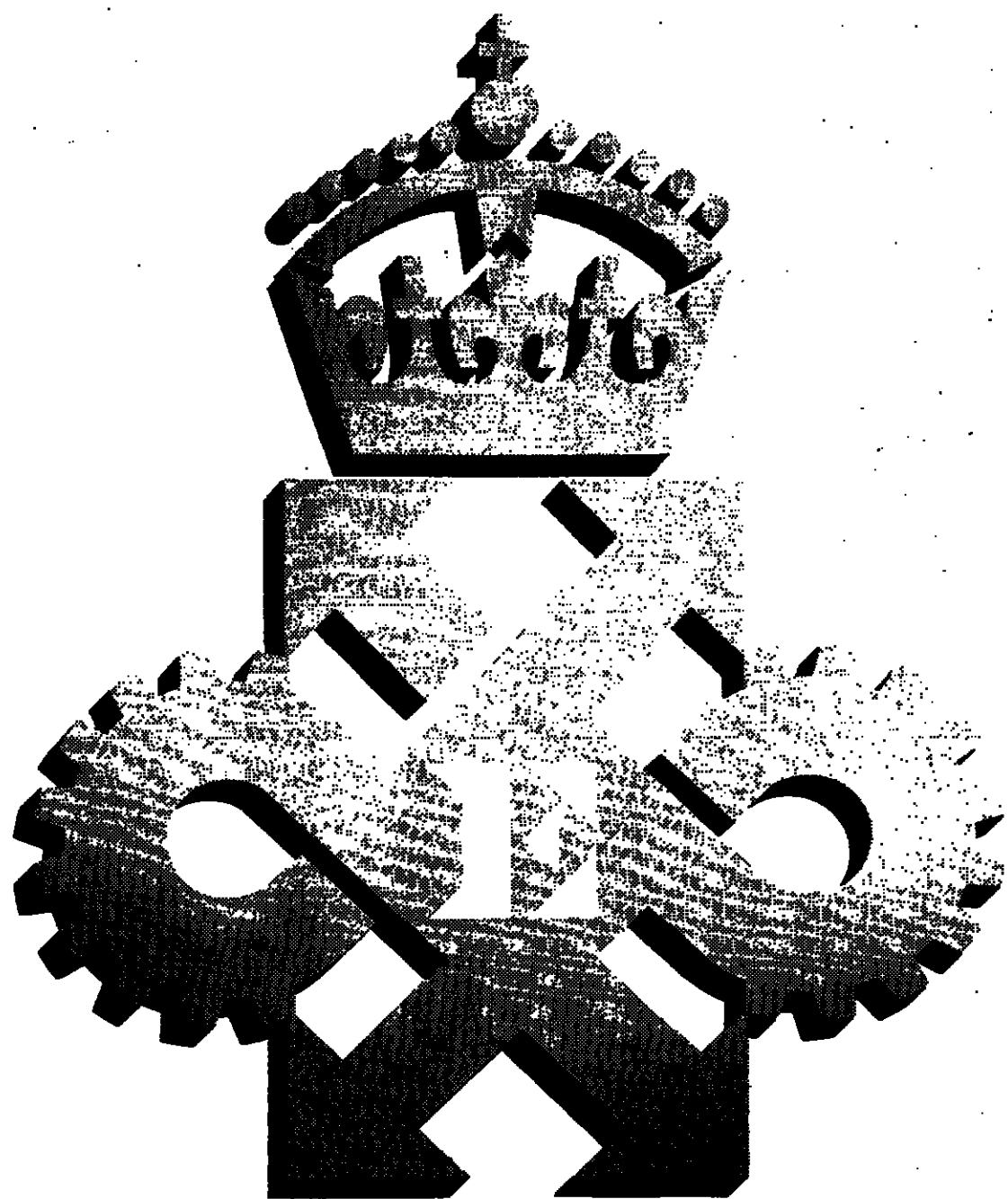
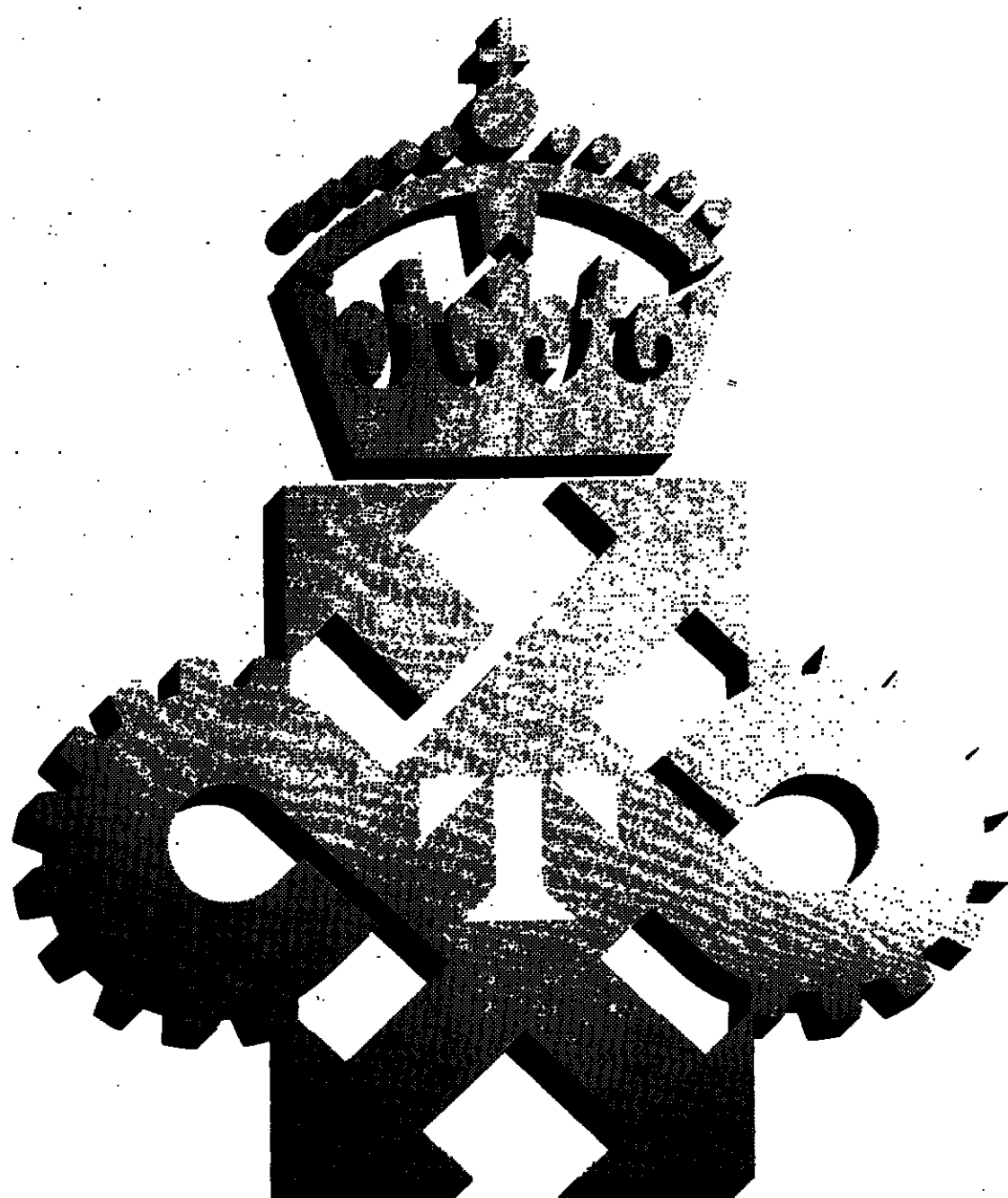


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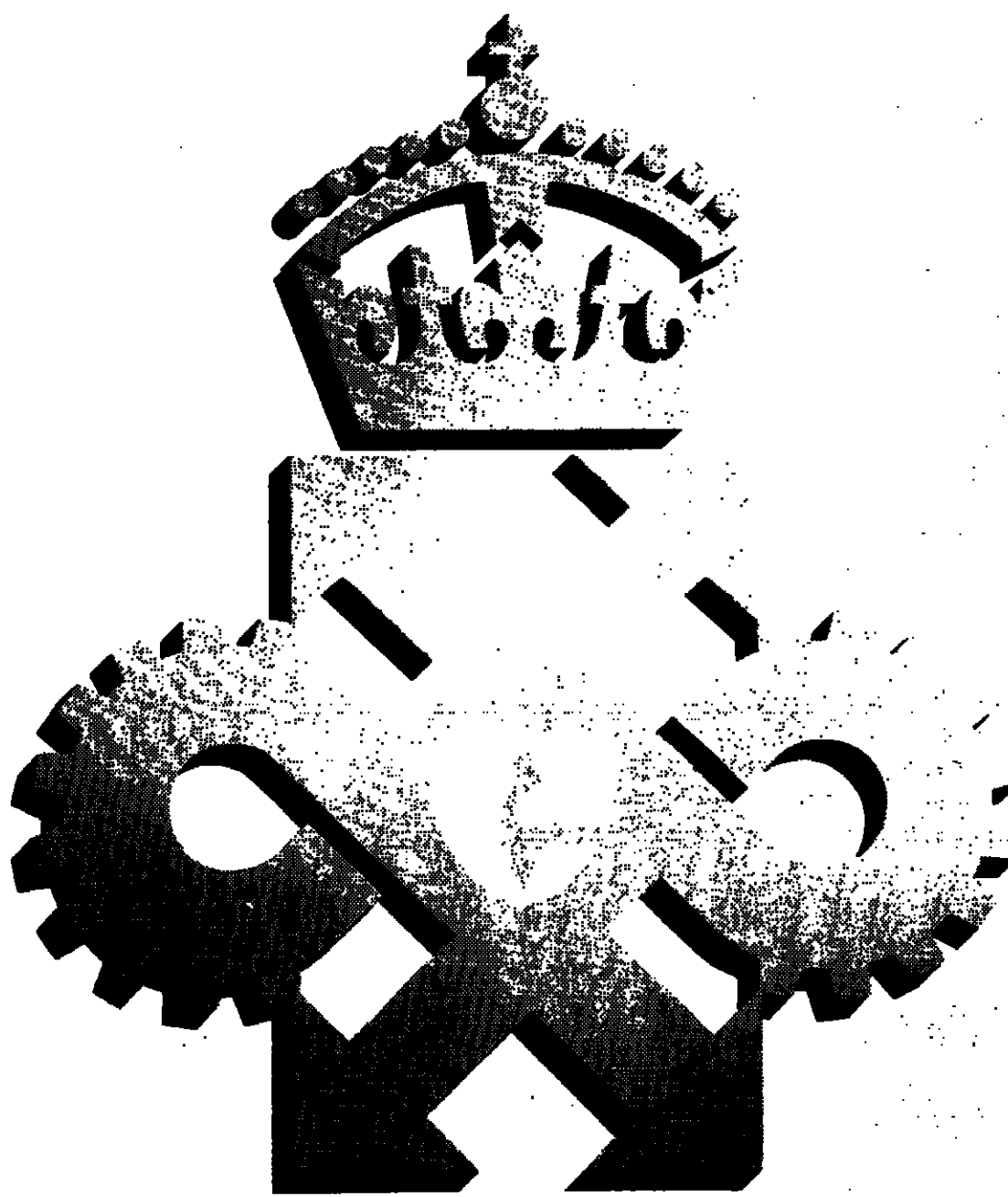
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ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT

THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR
EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT

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Happy jack

Carol White, presenter of
Jack in the Box, has good
reason to celebrate
London-based Sunstream
which produces the satellite
television channel Channel
Five, has quadrupled its ex-
port sales in the last
three years.

HESS

AMERRADA HESS

is proud to receive the Queen's
Award for Technological Achievement for
Company's development of a new
facility for use on the Ivins
fields in the UK.
Particular thanks are expressed to
and suppliers who through their
efforts have made this achievement
possible. Thanks also go to our partners
and Gas Limited, Kerr McGraw
Pict Petroleum plc for their



The 1992 Queen's Award winners



THE following have been granted the Queen's Award for Export Achievement, 1992.

Aegis Group, London SW1: media planning and buying. **Aerocontractors**, Horley, Surrey: aircraft spares and repairs.

Ane-Coil, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire: aluminium coil.

APV Crepac, Eastbourne, East Sussex: stainless steel positive rotary lobe pumps.

Associated Timber Services, Newmarket, Suffolk: timber merchants.

J Barbour & Sons, South Shields, Tyne & Wear: country style clothing.

Baxter Woodhouse & Taylor, Macclesfield, Cheshire: ducting for the aircraft industry.

The Binding Site, Edgaston, Birmingham, West Midlands: test kits for medical research and diagnosis.

Bisley Office Equipment, Woking, Surrey: office equipment.

British Aerospace (Commercial Aircraft), Hatfield, Hertfordshire: commercial aircraft and spares, wings for Airbus.

British Gas, On Line Inspection Centre, Cramlington, Northumberland: pipeline inspection service.

British Soap, Bicester, Oxfordshire: soap.

British Steel, General Steels Division, Rotherham, Yorkshire: heavy structural steel.

Britannia (T.R.), Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire: transfer printing papers.

BWE, Ashford, Kent: continuous extrusion, cold pressure welding and wire and rod cleaning equipment.

Chase Research, Basingstoke, Hampshire: computer peripherals.

Chloride Industrial Batteries, Swinton, Greater Manchester: electric batteries.

Chubb Safe Equipment, Wolverhampton, West Midlands: safes, vaults, cabinets.

City Technology, Portsmouth, Hampshire: electrochemical gas sensors and accessories.

G Clancy, Halesowen, West Midlands: vehicle engine components.

Clerical Medical International Assurance, Douglas, Isle of Man: insurance and investment services.

Colvera, Romford, Essex: automotive sensors and potentiometers.

Compaq Computer Manufacturing, Bishopcleeve, Renfrewshire, Scotland: computers and peripheral equipment.

Compu Inc, UK trading as Compu Inc, Hull, North Humberside: photographic bar code printed labels.

Compugraphics Intl, Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland: photomasks for semiconductor.

Conoco, London SE1: petroleum, coke and petroleum products.

Contour Seats, Farnborough, Hampshire: aircraft seats.

Coors Ceramics Electronics, Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland: ceramic substrates.

Data Connection, Enfield, Middlesex: computer software.

C Davidson & Sons, Aberdeen, Scotland: paper-board, plasterboard liners and chipboard.

Dange Power Projects, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire: electrical power supply equipment and turnkey projects.

Domingo Amjet, Bar Hill, Cambridge: industrial ink-jet printers, and inks.

Dowdy Aerospace Gloucester, Gloucester, Gloucestershire: aerospace equipment.

Dunlop International Technology (DITL), Birmingham, West Midlands: manufacturing technology transfer and factory projects work.

Dussek Campbell - Engineering Division, Crayford, Kent: cable filling applications.

EBI Foods, Abingdon, Oxfordshire: foodstuffs.

EES (Manufacturing), Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, Wales: jigs.

EuroMoney Publications, London EC4: financial publishers and conference organisers.

Europa Scientific, Crewe, Cheshire: mass spectrometers.

Fabtec, Ellesmere, Shropshire: farm milk storage tanks.

Financial & Corporate Modelling Consultants - Staffware Division, London NW1: computer software.

Formast International, Woking, Surrey: computer software for agriculture.

Fortnum & Mason, London W1: foodstuffs.

Fryer's Fabrics, Clifton, Greater Manchester: furnishing fabrics.

Fulleon, Cwmbran, Gwent, Wales: electronic sounders.

G B Glass Engineering (Division of GB Glass), Chesterfield, Derbyshire: glass forming equipment and technology.

Glewehall, London NW2: woollen coats.



Looking up: Mr Michael Bly, of Hoyland Fox, Penistone, Sheffield, makers of garden, golf and fishing umbrella frames. More than half of the company's output is exported

Sifting out a thousand candidates

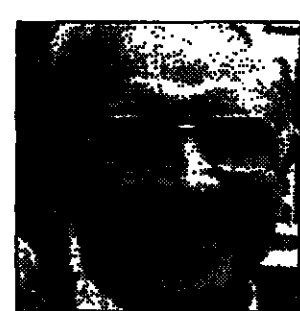
IN MOST years, more than 1,000 applications for a Queen's Award pass through the sifting process at the Queen's Awards Office in London's Horseferry Road. More than 3,000 winners have been selected since the awards began in 1965.

Two-thirds or more of the awards have been going to smaller businesses with 200 employees or fewer. A modest proportion of these are subsidiaries of bigger companies. Screening of applications is done by a series of committees with an additional input from specialists. Likely winners come under scrutiny



Sir Robin Butler

from two committees. Then they go to a senior committee, the prime minister's advisory committee, as the awards are



Jack Jones

made by the Queen on the advice of the prime minister. Chairman of this senior committee is Sir Robin But-

let, head of the home civil service. Two new faces for this year's awards are Sir John Fairclough, chairman of the Engineering Council, and Sir Hugh Bidwell, chairman of British Invisibles. Other members are Sir Peter Gregson, permanent secretary of the trade and industry department; Sir Derek Hornby, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board; Sir Brian Corby, president of the Confederation of British Industry; and Jack Jones, representing the Trades Union Congress. Two independent members are John E. Bolton and Mr J.M. Raisman.

Helena Laboratories (UK), Gateshead, Tyne and Wear: medical diagnostic kits and laboratory instruments.

Hewlett-Packard International, Yoker, Glasgow: vibrating screens, feeders and shake-outs.

Hoyland Fox, Penistone, Sheffield: umbrella frames.

Huntleigh Technology (Healthcare Division), Luton: electro-medical equipment.

ICI Katalco Puraspec Purification Processes, Billingham, Cleveland: catalysts and absorbents.

Imatron, Newbury, Berkshire: laser optical products.

International Additives, Walsley, Merseyside: animal feed flavours and sweeteners.

International Aerospace, Cranfield, Bedfordshire: flight training school.

International Rectifier Co (GB), Oxford, Surrey: power semiconductor.

Intersolar Group, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire: solar-powered products.

Javer House Distillers, Airdrie, Lanarkshire: whisky.

JLG Industries (Europe), Cumbernauld, Strathclyde: aerial work platforms.

R.G.C. Jenkins & Co, London SW1: patent and trademark agents.

Kemble & Company, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire: pianos.

The Kemble Instrument Company, Burgess Hill, West Sussex: laboratory instruments for analysing and diagnosis.

Kyushu Matsushita Electric (UK), Newport, Gwent: printers, typewriters, telephones, fax systems.

Linux Printing Technologies, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire: ink jet printers.

London Business School, London NW1: business management education.

Magnex Scientific, Abingdon, Oxfordshire: magnet systems for diagnostic imaging.

Jim Marshall (Products), Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire: amplification equipment.

Mayflower Glass, East Boldon, Tyne and Wear: glass sculptures.

Mediscene Contract Manufacturing, Abingdon, Oxfordshire: medical diagnostics.

The Michael Ross Group, Hayes, Middlesex: handframed knitwear.

More Fisher Brown, London E1: solicitors.

Motchan & Watkins (Theatre) trading as Edwards and Edwards, London WC2: theatre ticket agency.

Neill Johnstone, Langholme, Dumfriesshire, Scotland: worsted fabrics.

Newbridge Networks, Newport, Gwent, Wales: multiplexers.

Newman Martin and Buchan, London EC3: insurance brokers.

Nissan Motor Manufacturing (UK), Sunderland, Tyne and Wear: motor vehicles.

O.I.L., Woking, Surrey: support services for the offshore oil industry.

Orbit Valve, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire: valves and integrated valve control systems.

Oxford Magnet Technology, Eynsham, Witney, Oxfordshire: magnet systems for diagnostic imaging.

Pall Europe, Portsmouth, Hampshire: filtration products.

Phase 3, near Sipton, North Yorkshire: high performance outdoor clothing.

Piccadilly Shoes, Manchester: footwear.

Poker Plastics, near Morton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire: plastic mudguards for bicycles.

Polymark Futurail, Banbury, Oxfordshire: specialised equipment for mechanical handling.

Remploy (Knitwear Division), Alfreton, Derbyshire: knitwear.

Renishaw Transducer Systems, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire: electronic measuring instruments.

Richard Coalbeck, Grimsby, South Humberside: fish.

Risana (UK), Ecdes, Greater Manchester: self-adhesive materials.

Robinson & Hannon, Blyden-on-Tyne, Tyne and Wear: processing of scrap metal.

Rolls-Royce Aerospace Group Civil Engine Business, Derby, Derbyshire: civil aero-engines and parts.

Ross Breeders, Newbridge, Midlothian, Scotland: poultry breeding, livestock.

L A Rumbold, Camberley, Surrey: aircraft interior products.

SBJ Regis Low, London EC4: insurance broking services.

Schumacher Filters, Handsworth, Sheffield, South Yorkshire: filters.

Seafarms Seafoods, Ayr, Ayrshire: seafood.

Silverline, London EC1: ladies' underwear.

Specialix, Byfleet, Surrey: computer boards.

Stakehill Engineering, Bolton, Lancashire: steel/plastic laminate and plastic mouldings to produce pallet dunnage.

Starstream trading as The Children's Channel, London WC2: TV programmes for children.

Technic Group, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire: retrain-

ed tyres for cars and light trucks.

Technigraph Products, Thetford, Norfolk: litho plate processing equipment.

Thermomax, Bangor, Northern Ireland: evacuating heat pipe solar collectors.

Thorn Secure Science, Swindon, Wiltshire: high security magnetic tape and tape readers.

Thornton Precision Forgings, Sheffield, South Yorkshire: precision forged and machined components.

Tibbitt, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire: mens, ladies and childrens outer clothing.

Timsons, Kettering, Northamptonshire: rotary printing presses.

Tiphook, London SW1: transport asset rental.

University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire: administration of examinations.

The University of Manchester, Institute of Science and Technology, Manchester: education and research.

Valpar Industrial, Bangor, Northern Ireland: drinks dispenser tubes.

Varn Products, Irlam, Greater Manchester: chemicals for the printing industry.

Vickers Cosworth Engineering Division, Northampton, Northamptonshire: motor car engines and components.

Vikoma International, Cowes, Isle of Wight: oil pollution control and recovery equipment.

Warwick International, Mostyn Holywell, Clwyd, North Wales: specialty chemicals.

Williams Fairley Engineering, Stockport, Cheshire: bridges.

Xtrac, Wokingham, Berkshire: transmission systems.

Yamashiki (Machinery) UK, Worcester: computer controlled machine tools.



The following have been awarded the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement 1992:

APV Baker - Escalator Division, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire: public service escalators.

Acorn Computers Group, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire: the ARM 32 bit, low cost RISC microprocessor.

Amerada Hess, London W1: floating production facility for offshore production of oil and gas.

Amersham International - Pharmaceutical Division, Amersham, Buckinghamshire: Ceretec, brain imaging agent.

Andergange, Aberdeen, Scotland: adjustable stabiliser for drilled oil wells.

Babcock Energy, Renfrew, Scotland: axial swirl burner for reducing oxides of nitrogen.

British Broadcasting Corporation - Engineering Directorate, London W12: stereo sound television (Nicom 728).

British Gas - Midlands Research Station of the Research and Technology Division, Solihull, West Midlands: regenerative burner system for fuel fired furnaces.

Cotswold Pig Development Company, Rothwell, Lincolnshire: genetic improvement in litter size of pigs.

Crossfield Electronics, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire: computerised pagination system.

Defence Research Agency - Optical and Display Science Division of the Electronics Division, Malvern, Worcestershire: advanced mixtures for liquid crystal displays.

Double R Controls, Heywood, Lancashire: in-line certification of magnetic media.

Grub defeat

ICI Agrochemicals gained a technological award for its environmentally friendly pyrethroid insecticides, one of which is *Karate* (active ingredient lambda-cyhalothrin), which protects plants such as cotton bolls against attack.

Cotton boll damage

ICI Agrochemicals, Macclesfield, Cheshire: development of Cefuroxime Axetil, an orally active broad spectrum antibiotic.

Hotwork Development, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire: regenerative burner system for fuel-fired furnaces.

IBM United Kingdom Laboratories, Winchester, Hampshire: mathematically based computer software system.

ICI Agrochemicals - the Insecticide Project Team of the Research and Development Department, Haslemere, Surrey: synthetic pyrethroid insecticides.

ICI Pharmaceuticals, Macclesfield, Cheshire: development of Diprivan, an injectable general anaesthetic.

In-Spec Mangover & Inspection Services - Electrical Projects Group, Dyce, Aberdeen, Scotland: non-invasive fault diagnosis in AC induction motors.

Lucas Nitrotec Services, Birmingham, West Midlands: Nitrotec process to upgrade engineering performance of low alloy steels.

Marconi Electronics - Stannmore Unit, Stannmore, Middlesex: integrated microwave receiver for satellite television.

Merck - Industrial Chemical Division, Poole, Dorset: advanced mixtures for liquid crystal displays.

Mercol Desalting, Chesterfield, Derbyshire: epoxy resin process for refurbishing potable water mains.

Ometron, London SE26: vibration pattern imager.

Oxford Lasers, Oxford, Oxfordshire: 100 watt copper laser.

Oxford University Computing Laboratory, Oxford, Oxfordshire: mathematically based computer software system.

Peboc, Anglesey, Gwynedd, Wales: N-chlorophthalimide, a major pharmaceutical intermediate.

Pilkington Communication Systems, Rhyll, Clwyd, Wales: optical backplane connector for cable termination.

Portakabin, York, North Yorkshire: Pullman series of relocatable buildings.

Racal Radar Defence Systems, Chessington, Surrey: radar identification system for defence purposes.

Rank Taylor Hobson, Thurston, Leicestershire: Form Talsurf series of measuring gauges based on computer technology.

Rover Group Rover Power Train, Longbridge, Birmingham, West Midlands: the K series engine.

Shelbourne Reynolds Engineering, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk: machinery to harvest small grain and seed crops.

Silco Research Institute, Silsoe, Bedfordshire: machinery to harvest small grain and seed crops.

SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals Research and Development, Epsom, Surrey: Bacitracin, antibiotic for bacterial skin infections and the elimination of nasal staphylococci.

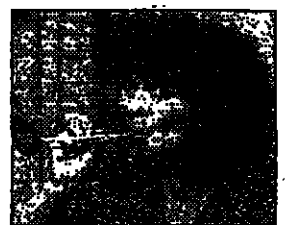
TSL Group, Wallend, Tyne and Wear: high purity quartz powder and ingots.

Vector Fields, Kidlington, Oxford, Oxfordshire: software for electro-magnetic device research.

Videologic, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire: full motion digital video adaptor for personal computers.

Happy jack

Carol Chell, presenter of *Jack In The Box*, has good reason to celebrate. London-based Starstream, which produces the satellite television Children's Channel, has quadrupled its export earnings in the last three years.



Carol Chell



AMERADA HESS LIMITED

is proud to receive the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement in respect of the Company's development of a floating production facility for use on the Ivanhoe and Rob Roy oil fields in the UK North Sea.

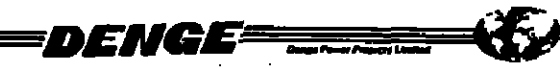
Particular thanks are expressed to staff, contractors and suppliers who through the quality of their efforts have made this achievement possible. Our thanks also go to our partners, Deminor UK Oil and Gas Limited, Kerr McGee Oil (UK) plc and Pict Petroleum plc for their support throughout.



DENGE POWER PROJECTS LIMITED

is extremely proud that its continued growth in the international electrical engineering markets and its contribution to Britain's exports has resulted in the receipt of the Queen's Award For Export Achievement.

The Company wishes to offer its thanks and appreciation to all who have contributed to the Company's success.



We are delighted to announce that we are the proud recipients of the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement 1992. It was earned for our innovative development of an economical and environmentally-friendly process for the manufacture of a major pharmaceutical intermediate.

We are indebted to our customers, shareholders and staff for their contribution.



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Breeding pigs by numbers

Awards given to agriculture include one for a computerised porcine dating service

A novel computer dating scheme for pigs has won a Lincolnshire pig-breeding company the award for technology, writes Rodney Hobson. This method of speeding up the rate of genetic improvement in livestock has made Cotswold Pig Development Company the first such company to gain this distinction.

Cotswold achieved a breakthrough in pig breeding when, in 1986, it introduced its unique Group Nucleus Breeding Scheme. The basis is a new statistical technique known as Blup (best linear unbiased prediction), for which Cotswold developed specialised computer software.

Linked with artificial insemination, the scheme allows the performance of pigs on different farms to be compared with each other. Previously, genetic comparisons could only be made by measuring pigs in the same environment. This limited the numbers of pigs that could be tested, and the rate of improvement.

Cotswold predicts that the technique will allow an extra pig per litter to be produced every five years, worth £2,000 a year to the farmer with a 250-sow herd.

Ross Breeders, part of Hillsdown Holdings, has gained its second export award for poultry breeding. It now exports half its total output to 60 countries world wide.

On the animal feeding side, an export award has been won by International Additives, part of the Hays group. Its products improve the taste of animal feed and pet foods. Through its overseas network of subsidiaries, offices and

distributors, it supplies an extensive spread of markets that has just been extended to China. Exports have risen sharply to account for more than half the total output.

The insecticide project team of the research and development department of ICI Agrochemicals gains the technology award for the development of pyrethroid insecticides for agricultural use.

These new pyrethroids are more active than the older forms, provide a high potency from low spraying rates and are degradable in the environment. A broad spectrum of pests, including some that are resistant to other insecticides, is controlled without damage to crops.

A joint award for technology has been won by Shelbourne Reynolds Engineering at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, and Silsoe Research Institute in Bedfordshire, which have developed a stripper head for combine harvesters that takes grain or seeds with little chaff or leaf material, leaving most of the stalk standing in the field.

Subsequent stages of harvesting are more efficient. As well as being used for UK cereals, the device is in widespread use in North America, particularly for the rice crop.

Format International designs and manufactures specialist computer software for the world animal feed market. Its exports now account for 80 per cent of total earnings. Fabbec manufactures stainless steel milk tanks for dairy farmers and exports to Europe and Japan. Both have won the export award.

University research can become a vital, innovative source of income, reports Rodney Hobson

Rodney Hobson

City Technology in Portsmouth, a subsidiary of City University, has won its second export award, bringing to four its awards total. It has been trading since 1977 and manufactures gas sensors to control safety, energy-saving and emissions. Two of its awards have been for technology, two for export.

City Technology exports more than 80 per cent of its products. Total exports have grown by 980 per cent since 1985 and markets include Europe, Australasia, the Americas, India, Israel, Turkey and the Far East. The company hopes to double its £7.5 million turnover in the next few years.

A growing proportion of the foreign earnings at Umist (the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology) comes from research services and technology-transfer work carried out through its subsidiary, Umist Ventures. Research earnings come from 113 countries and research sponsorship has been received from 16 Japanese companies.

In 1990-91, Umist brought in more than £10 million, with research earnings more than £2 million; student fees accounted for £6 million.

Professor Harold Hankins, Umist principal, says: "Few, if any, universities can match the 17 per cent of total income which we bring in from abroad."

Oxford University Computing Laboratory, in conjunction with



A broad degree on offer: George Bain, London Business School principal, whose programmes use material developed worldwide

IBM United Kingdom Laboratories, has won a technology award for developing a computer program for use in the IBM Customer Information Control System. It is the first time that a university department has been granted a Queen's Award for the second time, and IBM is also a previous winner.

The achievement is the result of 10 years' collaboration that began after a chance meeting between Professor Tony Hoare, director of

the programming research group at Oxford, and Tony Kenney, manager of the IBM system.

Professor Hoare says: "Our long-term partnership with IBM has contributed simultaneously to commercial advantage, to the progress of pure science and to the improvement of academic education."

London Business School, established in 1965, is one of the leading institutions of its kind in the world. Under Professor George Bain, the principal, it offers a broad portfolio

of degree and non-degree programmes to managers from all over the world. Teaching is through case studies and practical projects, designed in conjunction with businesses across the globe. All of its overseas earnings, which have doubled over the past three years, come from students' fees.

Set up in 1858, the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate is by far the largest UK-based examining body for English as a foreign language. The syndi-

cate also administers schools examinations on behalf of education ministries and private centres around the world. More than 60 per cent of its earnings comes from overseas.

The syndicate now has 450 full-time staff and more than 12,000 examiners; a million candidates sat eight million question papers in 1991. Full-time staff are stationed permanently in countries as diverse as Czechoslovakia, Turkey, Thailand and Namibia.

Honour that counts

Specialix, a Surrey-based company launched in 1986, is among the clutch of computer and computer peripherals companies to have won the award for export, writes Rodney Hobson. Specialix is now one of the biggest suppliers of micro-computer enhancement products in Europe, with turnover of more than £10 million.

Gödel Escher Bach, a small firm of management consultants based in London, aims its products, described as "user-promiscuous", at computer-illiterate directors. Exports to Europe, the Far East and the US have more than trebled over the past three years, and account for more than 90 per cent of earnings.

Data Connection, also based in London, is used as an expert partner by the international giants including IBM, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard and NCR. More than £7 million of its £8 million turnover comes from exports. Profit, running at more than £2 million, is distributed to the 123 employees through a profit-related pay scheme and an employee benefit trust.

Compac Computer Manufacturing at Bishopston, Renfrewshire, established in 1987, manufactures personal computers and peripheral equipment. Exports to Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the Far East, Australasia and the US have increased freight services to and from Scotland.

Chasing a global market

Long and arduous bargaining can be part of the search for new export markets for technology, as Dunlop International Technology, part of the BTR group, has found, writes Rodney Hobson. The company provides services for transferring technology for companies within the BTR group and outside it.

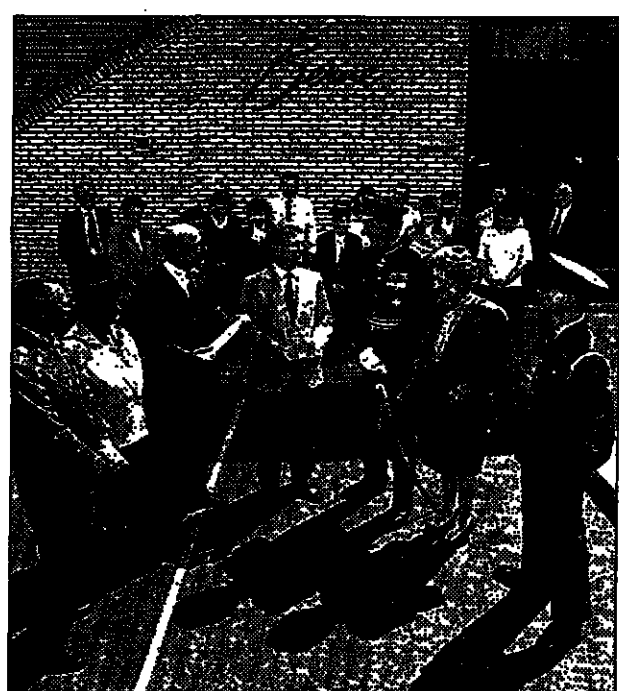
A typical example was a £21 million order for the supply of manufacturing technology, engineering design, training and specialist machinery, mainly from the UK, for the Chongqing tyre factory in China's Sichuan province.

This contract involved a complex marketing operation but John Sharrock, managing director, says: "Many emerging nations are now coming to appreciate the benefits of licensing technology from successful companies in the West, and we believe that more and more UK companies will realise the advantages of manufacturing projects overseas."

Dunlop currently has projects underway in 10 countries and its award is for exports.

Firms may celebrate as they choose

Time for pomp and ceremony



Frank Lowther, Northamptonshire Lord Lieutenant, presents a 1991 award to Berne clothing workers

The Queen's Awards are given for five years, although if during that time a company notches up fresh achievements, it can apply for another award. Export achievement must usually be shown over three years.

An award is not won just by the leader of a business; it recognises the achievement of the whole enterprise. Reflecting this is the way the awards are presented, usually at the headquarters of the enterprise and by the lord lieutenant (acting as the Queen's representative) of the county in which it is located.

Handed over are a grant of appointment, presented as a case of the Queen's Award emblem, in stainless steel and enclosed in a

transparent acrylic block. The Queen invites three representatives of each award-winning business to a Buckingham Palace party. They should represent the spectrum of the company's personnel.

ICI Pharmaceuticals celebrated in an unusual way when it won an award in 1991, by supporting two community projects. Its Cheshire-based employees gave £13,500 to set up a light and sound studio at Wilmslow, to help improve the communication skills of people newly out of hospital and with learning difficulties. Macclesfield Multiple Sclerosis Society benefited by being donated a purpose-built minibus.

DEREK HARRIS



THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations CMI.

CMI Insurance Company Ltd., part of the international arm of Clerical Medical Investment Group, has become the first life office to win the Queen's Award for Export Achievement, in recognition of their expertise in international insurance markets.

CMI's net income has increased

each year, contributing significantly towards Britain's export drive.

CMI now operates in over 60 countries across Europe, Africa, Asia and The Americas.

To all of them at CMI throughout the world, from all of us at Clerical Medical, congratulations.

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ISSUED BY CLERICAL, MEDICAL AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, A MEMBER OF LAUTRO.

INNS AND

The French keep quiet

ON THE surface at least, relations between French and English lawyers remain cordial. The colloquium of the Franco-British Lawyers' Society will take place in Paris on May 16 and 17. The programme will cover the use of judicial experts, succession law, pension funds and securities law — but not the controversial French law which in part sets out to restrict the activities of British lawyers in Paris. But then, French lawyers have always been happy to discuss French law with the British, so long as they do not try to practice it.

Mortgage mate

HARD times can prompt innovations. Hamlin Slove, the West End solicitors, has developed a computer programme to help mortgage recovery lenders as part of its secured lending group. The service features a computer link between clients and the firm. Clients now have access to check the status of cases at any time — to see, for instance, which are outstanding, whether summons have

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LAW TIMES



Common-law crises

Living together outside marriage has, over the past 25 years, become increasingly socially acceptable in England and Wales. The fact that nationally collected social statistics now include cohabitation as a separate category is evidence of official recognition of this "new" status. While the English language struggles to find appropriate terminology for the phenomenon, growing numbers of couples are choosing to cohabit either as a prelude or alternative to marriage.

Yet few of them give any serious thought to the legal consequences of their decision to cohabit until a crisis arises in the form of relationship breakdown, the death of their partner, or perhaps possession proceedings. Many assume wrongly that the law confers rights on cohabitants in relation to occupation of the family home and other shared property, similar to those enjoyed by married couples, after a fixed period of cohabitation.

Such myths about "common law marriages" probably stem from rights which do exist within many other common-law jurisdictions, such as those that exist in Canada, Australia and the United States, where cohabitation is recognised as a relationship akin to marriage, and relationship breakdown disputes are governed by a divorce law equivalent founded on family law principles.

Unfortunately, this is not the case in England and Wales. Although recent changes to the law now incorporated in the Children Act 1989 do offer the possibility of some adjustment of unmarried parents' property for the benefit of their children, disputes between cohabitants as to who should remain in the family home or what contributions each partner has made to its purchase are principally a matter of property law rather than family law.

Even though unmarried couples often arrange their affairs in the same way as married couples, pooling their income and dividing the wage-earning and home-making roles, the flexible principles which apply to married couples in this regard are not extended to the unmarried.

Attempts in the 1970s by Lord Denning to adopt a similarly flexible approach with regard to property disputes between unmarried couples were subsequently rejected by the courts. In sharp contrast to the position

Couples who set up home without signing a marriage vow may find themselves unprotected by the law when domestic problems arise. Anne Barlow reports

of spouses, a long number of years caring for the home and children does not raise any entitlement to maintenance on relationship breakdown, and will not of itself give rise to any proprietary interest in a property owned by a cohabitee's partner. Neither will it increase the share of a cohabitee who is a joint owner and who has been disadvantaged in terms of earning capacity as a result. This often leaves a great sense of injustice, which may grow more acute the more socially acceptable cohabitation becomes.

This is not to say that cohabitants are always treated as unconnected individuals. The piecemeal and inconsistent approach of the law with regard to such relationships makes legal advice important in relation to every proposed joint venture or possible area of dispute, and creates problems which cry out for legal reform.

There are numerous examples. Orders giving protection from a violent spouse can be obtained in the High Court, the county court and also the often more accessible magistrates' court. A cohabitee who is the victim of domestic violence has only the county court remedy.

Social security legislation treats men and women who "live together as husband and wife" in the same way as married couples with respect to means-tested benefits, which results in a net reduction of the benefit payable to the couple.

Yet non-means-tested benefits, such as the retirement pension, unemployment and sickness benefit, where entitlement is determined by national insurance contributions, include additional payments only for a dependent spouse and not a dependent cohabitee. Similarly, the Inland Revenue cannot

award a married couple's income tax allowance to a cohabiting couple, even where one partner is working and the other is their dependant.

Spouses automatically inherit from each other if they die without making a will. Yet a cohabitee will have no such entitlement to inherit from their deceased partner's estate. If, and only if, a cohabitee was dependent on their partner who died without making a will, or did not include them as a beneficiary, can they claim maintenance against the estate. But in both these situations, the law is far less generous than to a spouse in a similar position.

Cohabitants in rented accommodation also face difficulties on relationship breakdown or death of their partner to which in some situations the law fails to provide any solution at all, no matter how long a partner may have resided there. Much will depend on the type of tenancy and whether the tenancy is in both their names or not. But where it protects spouses, the law does not provide any occupation rights of a family home for cohabitants. Although the traditional legal disadvantages for children born of a cohabitation relationship have been removed, the law still does not treat them in the same way as children of a married couple at birth, as parental responsibility is given only to the mother.

Even the recent Children Act 1989 makes no distinction between children born outside marriage into a stable relationship and those born of a more casual encounter. However, the Act does at last provide a simple means for unmarried parents to agree formally to share parental responsibility. This broadly then places the parents in the

same position as married parents in relation to their children.

As these examples show, the legal consequences of living together outside marriage can be far-reaching and while some couples choose not to marry to avoid state interference in their relationship, many do not appreciate their legal position. Housing, arrangements for children, financial provision on death or relationship breakdown are all matters that affect couples who live together as keenly as those who marry.

Other legal systems have found ways of dealing with the consequences of such relationships in their family law jurisdiction, yet there is no proposal to reform our law in this regard.

What then can be done by individual cohabitants who want to safeguard their position and agree on arrangements?

Cohabitation contracts in which couples could declare the terms upon which their relationship is based and provide agreed solutions should their relationship break down are widely used in other jurisdictions but may not be enforceable in our law. Although cohabitants can take steps to protect themselves in the event of death or relationship breakdown, as things stand it is wise to seek comprehensive legal advice.

It is important to make clear declarations as to ownership of property on purchase which can be flexible and provide for future contingencies, and to ensure that the implications of the arrangements are fully explained and understood. Wills are indispensable to cohabiting couples wishing to leave property to the other and it is vital to keep the situation under review.

Although the law is unclear about the enforceability of cohabitation contracts, any agreement of this nature is at the very least bound to be good evidence of a couple's intention at the time the contract was made. As such, it is a valuable exercise because it provides a good starting point in the event of any dispute. Cohabitants can pay a high price for failing to consider fully the implications of their relationship. This only adds to the distress already suffered by the loss of a loved one or by a relationship breakdown.

The author is a solicitor and lecturer in law at University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. She has just published *Living Together: A Guide to the Law* (Fourmat Publishing: £24, incl. postage and packing).

A dressing-down for not dressing up

Judges have an infinite variety of ways in which to make the professional life of the advocate as difficult as possible. In 1983, the Californian Supreme Court ruled that it was wrong for a judge to respond to a submission from the district attorney by "poking him in the chest with his finger and telling him, 'buddy boy, you're not going to get away with this'."

In 1988, a judge of the US District Court was reprimanded for threatening to shoot a lawyer. A Californian judge was, in the same year, removed from office for a number of lapses from proper judicial standards, one of which was to tell an offensive joke to female lawyers who had the misfortune to be representing clients on an application before him.

One way in which the fussy judge may make a nuisance of himself is to focus on irrelevant questions of dress. A prime example was reported two weeks ago from the magistrates' court at Bridgend in Mid Glamorgan.

The chairman of the bench interrupted the sentencing of a defendant in a drink-drive case to order the defence solicitor, Mr Bill Loveluck-Edwards, to leave the court because his shoes were undone. The solicitor had undone his laces because his new shoes were uncomfortable.

On his return to court, he understandably complained that the magistrate had treated him like a child.

Judges and lawyers concerned about sartorial standards (whether their own or those of others) should be aware that a considerable case law has developed in the United States on the extent to which courts may regulate the dress of advocates.

In 1976, the Supreme Court of Florida held, by a majority of four to three, that it had no jurisdiction to consider an attorney's complaint about a lower court sentencing him to three days in jail for his refusal to wear a tie in court.

Justice England, dissenting, pointed out that the advocate's "personal appearance and attire, which included a suit, clean and pressed shirt, and a hanging gold medalion, were otherwise neat, attractive and proper". He wisely rejected "any inference that respect for the judicial system is dependent upon male attorneys wearing neckties".

The District Court of Appeal of California rejected an optimistic appeal against a criminal conviction in 1964. The defendant complained that on the first morning of the trial, the judge had ordered the female defence counsel to remove her hat while in court.

In 1969, the Supreme Court of New York, Appellate Division, quashed the order of a judge prohibiting a female attorney from taking part in a case before him until she wore

"suitable, conventional and appropriate" clothes. He was offended by the fact that she was wearing a dress the hemline of which was five inches above her knee.

Justice Del Vecchio, dissenting, took a more conservative view. He was concerned that the dress "revealed substantially more of the human frame than is customarily displayed in a courtroom".

During an extraordinary case in 1984, that could only have occurred in California, a judge prohibited an advocate from appearing in his courtroom wearing a turban when there appeared to be no religious or other legitimate reason for such attire. The attorney declined to say why he wished to wear the turban.

Associate Justice Butler, for the Court of Appeal of California, delivered a grandiloquent opinion that "to require a lawyer to disclose religious beliefs as a condition to appear before a judge returns us to those troubled times our ancestors fled in their search for freedom from religious oppression".

The appeal court ordered that the lower court give a right of audience to the advocate "unless the court can establish through proper procedure that the turban interferes with or disrupts justice".

An advocate is unfortunate if the judge focuses on his shoe-laces. Judicial irritation is more usually directed at lay people. Earlier this month, a crown court judge in Newcastle upon Tyne was angered by a noisy display of pleasure from the public gallery after a jury acquitted a defendant on a charge of wounding.

The judge ordered 12 members of the public to be detained in prison for the night. One of those so imprisoned later complained that he had not even been in the public gallery at the time. The acquitted defendant sadly explained that he "was released only to see my friends jailed for cheering the verdict. I was hoping to celebrate with my friends, but they were all locked up".

Perhaps the crown court judge had taken seriously one of A. P. Herbert's *Misleading Cases* where there is a footnote reference to "Marable v Rowntree, where the jury, on being discharged, sang 'For he's a jolly good fellow', and were committed for contempt".

Possibly the Bridgend magistrate in the shoe-laces case had misunderstood John Mortimer's story in which Rumpole's cross-examination of a witness is interrupted by him being passed a message from Mr Justice Prestold: "Your bands are falling down and showing your collar stud." As Rumpole curses to himself: "What was this, a murder trial or a bloody fashion parade?"

The author is a practising Queen's Counsel and a fellow of all Souls College, Oxford. His book, *Advocates* (Oxford University Press, £15), is published on Thursday.



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INNS AND OUTS

The French keep quiet

How do you spell repossession?



been issued, hearing dates set, possession orders made, warrants issued or eviction dates set.

Dished

ONCE upon a time, house deeds used to contain conditions that the property was not to be used as a brothel or as a tripe-dresser's shop. Now Rees Jones Developments, a Welsh building firm, has

banned satellite dishes on houses it sells. Apparently, if asked nicely, Rees Jones will issue a special dispensation in appropriate cases to allow residents to put up a satellite dish in an unobtrusive position at the back or on the side of the house. As yet, no owner has been desperate enough to put a dish on the front. Could a test case be brewing for a cricket fan?

SCRIVENOR

Mortgage mate

HARD times can prompt innovations. Hamlin Slowe, the West End solicitors, has developed a computer program, a "mortgage recovery service" to help mortgage lenders as part of its secured lending group. The service features a computer link between clients and the firm. Clients now have access to the firm's files and can check the status of cases at any time — to see, for instance, which are outstanding, whether summonses have

Unhealthy state of affairs

DISASTERS in which people have died in the course of their employment will cause fresh impetus to a growing argument about workplace health and safety responsibilities in the United Kingdom.

At the heart of the debate lies a widespread feeling that workplace deaths are treated too lightly by the authorities and that those responsible for systems of work and working conditions, particularly directors and senior managers, should be held more accountable when systems go wrong. Relatives are often confused by the overlapping enquiries and jurisdictions. First, there is the inquest, which aims to ascertain the identities of the deceased, how his or her death occurred and its cause. If several deaths are linked to the same incident, there may also be a separate independent enquiry.

Neither an inquest nor independent inquiry can determine questions of criminal liability. If criminal charges are brought, they are determined separately. The question of civil liability and any obligation to compensate relatives by the payment of damages is determined in yet a fourth separate forum. Though evidence that emerges in one court or enquiry can be useful material on which to base judgments in a separate court, the overlapping jurisdiction is

When workplace accidents lead to inquests

often criticised as being unnecessarily wasteful of time and resources.

Inquest juries are specifically precluded from including in their verdicts any apportionment of civil liability for deaths: the nearest they can come to apportioning criminal responsibility is to return a verdict of "unlawful killing". In recent years, juries have shown a willingness to consider such verdicts rather than "accidental death" or "misadventure".

It is implicit in a verdict of unlawful killing that a crime has been committed, and concerning a workplace death the crime is most likely to be manslaughter. The fact of an unlawful killing verdict, while guaranteeing a police criminal investigation, does not necessarily mean that charges will follow. That may leave employers with the implication that their employee died because of a serious criminal act — but without a criminal trial they have no opportunity to clear their name effectively.

Yet individuals have occasionally been successfully prosecuted for manslaughter because of workplace deaths. It is

not so clear whether a company itself can be guilty of manslaughter, although most lawyers believe that it is possible.

Many observers consider there is an overwhelming case for reform of judicial and quasi-judicial procedures into workplace deaths. One possible solution would be to expand the powers of the independent judicial enquiry so as to enable the enquiry to adjudicate on matters of criminal and civil liability, to apportion blame, pass sentence and award damages.

Such a move would immediately render any further criminal or civil proceedings unnecessary and since there would be little more that could be achieved by a coroner's inquest, could also eliminate the need for inquests.

Many people believe that the main aim of any judicial enquiry must be to examine the facts so the incident is not repeated and that this is best achieved by encouraging witnesses to be entirely frank in their evidence. Effectively superimposing a trial on the proceedings of an inquiry would, they claim, inevitably add an adversarial approach to the proceedings.

GARETH WATKINS
The writer is a solicitor with Nabarro Nathanson

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Private prosecution legitimate

Regina v Bow Street Stipendiary Magistrate, Ex parte South Coast Shipping Company and Others

Before Lord Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice Waterhouse
[Judgment April 13]

The fact that the public prosecuting authorities had instituted proceedings for a minor offence arising from an incident did not preclude a private prosecution being brought for a serious offence arising out of the same incident where there was evidence suggesting culpability.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when refusing the application of South Coast Shipping Co Ltd, Robert Samuel, Peter Malcolm Butcher, Frederic Darwell and George Greenwood to have their commitment by Sir David Hopkins, Bow Street Chief Stipendiary Magistrate, for trial in a private prosecution brought by Mr Ivor Glogg, the husband of a victim in the sinking of a Thames pleasure boat.

Mr Michael Hill, QC and Mr Michael Bowles for the applicants; Mr Michael Mansfield, QC and Miss Sally Bradley for the respondent.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD said the disaster occurred when the *Marioness* was run down in the Thames by the *Bowbelle*, owned and operated by the first defendant, leaving 51 dead.

The master of the *Bowbelle*, Captain Henderson, was charged under section 32 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988 as being responsible through his acts or omissions for the woman's death. The Director of Public Prosecutions decided that no further

charges would be brought.

On October 30, 1990 an application to the Divisional Court challenging the DPP's decision failed. The master was tried on two occasions on both of which the jury failed to reach a verdict and he was discharged.

Whether Parliament could have intended to exclude the possibility of the bringing of a private prosecution in such circumstances depended on sections 3 and 6 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985.

In section 3, subsections (2)(b), (c) and (d) provided for the circumstances in which the DPP would take over a prosecution while section 3(2)(b) provided for

him to institute proceedings.

The difference of language was not accidental but was crucial, especially when one came to section 6. Section 6(1) had the effect of precluding a person from bringing a private prosecution in certain cases but not in the circumstances covered by section 3(2)(b).

Mr Hill had argued that section 6 should be read as being subject to an implied limitation where a prosecution of some kind had already taken place.

His Lordship could see no reason for implying such a limitation. It was clearly intended to cover section 3(2)(b) cases where the DPP might institute proceed-

ings. Section 6(2) therefore contemplated the DPP taking over proceedings which he might have instituted himself. He might then decide to discontinue them as being contrary to the public interest or, if it was too late for that course of action, then to offer no evidence.

When so read section 3(2) and section 6 made a consistent useful and effective framework to allow members of the public to pursue cases as a safeguard against tardy or inactive prosecuting authorities.

Mr Justice Waterhouse agreed. Solicitors: Hill Taylor Dickinson; Christian Fisher & Co.

Hopkins v Norcross plc
Before Mr David Latham, QC
[Judgment April 9]

Money received by way of pension arising out of a termination of employment was not to be set off against the damages to which the former employee was entitled where the termination of contract of employment was wrongful.

Mr David Latham, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in assessing damages to be awarded to the plaintiff, Mr John Edward Hopkins, for wrongful dismissal, against the defendants, Norcross plc.

Mr Stephen Auld for the plaintiff; Mr Philip Naughton, QC and Mr Adrian Lynch for the defendants.

computation of damages was the shortfall, if any, between the pension to which he would have been entitled had he continued to work his full contract period, and the pension that he was in fact receiving as a result of the reduced service.

There did not appear to have been any reported case on the issue but there was clear authority on the deductibility of a disability pension from damages for lost earning capacity in personal injury actions. In *Perry v Cleaver* [1970] AC 1 the House of Lords had held that a disability pension payable to a policeman was to be ignored in assessing financial loss by way of lost earning capacity.

In *Smoker v London Fire and Civil Defence Authority* [1991] 2 AC 502 an attempt was made to argue that *Perry* had been

wrongly decided or that it did not apply where the employer was the tortfeasor. Both arguments were rejected by the House of Lords.

From the cases, in damages for personal injury, no distinction was drawn between a disability pension and a retirement pension.

It seemed to his Lordship that, on the authorities, there was no room for a different approach to deductibility of a pension dependent upon whether the claim was in contract or in tort.

It would not be particularly satisfactory if the answer to the question of whether or not a pension was to be deducted depended upon the way in which the claim was formulated.

As a matter of law the pension payments received by the plaintiff

were not deductible from the figure which had been agreed as the damages for wrongful dismissal. Despite the fact that that gave the appearance of double recovery, it followed necessarily from the character of pension arrangements.

It also had the virtue of ensuring that the plaintiff was in the same position as he would have been in had he made his own separate pension provision.

In the absence of any express terms in an occupational pension provided by employers or in the contract of employment, it would seem to be illogical and unjust for there to be a different result merely because the pension was provided by the employer.

Solicitors: Clifford Chance; Slaughter & May.

Damages not cut by pension

Previous appeal relevant

North Wiltshire District Council v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Mann and Sir Michael Kerr
[Judgment April 15]

A previous appeal decision is distinguishable from the instant case must ordinarily be a material consideration to be taken into account by a planning inspector. Failure to do so exposed the inspector's decision to challenge on the ground that it was not within his statutory powers.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the Secretary of State for the Environment against a decision of Mr Lionel Read, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, to quash an inspector's decision

allowing an appeal by Mr and Mrs Keith Clover, the second respondents, against a refusal of planning permission for a dwelling house on land at Norton, Wiltshire.

Mr Timothy Sraaker for North Wiltshire; Mr Stephen Richards for the secretary of state; the second respondents did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that when making his determination an inspector was obliged to have regard to matters including "other material considerations".

Previous decisions were capable of being material because like cases should be decided in a like manner so that there was consistency in the appellate process, although an inspector must always exercise his own judgment.

A practical test for the inspector was to ask himself whether if he decided the case in a particular way he was necessarily agreeing or disagreeing with some critical aspect in the decision in the previous case.

Where there was disagreement, the inspector had to weigh the previous decision and give his reasons for departing from it.

The materiality of the previous decision was apparent and the inspector had been made aware of it. The absence of any treatment of the previous decision in the inspector's decision substantially prejudiced the interests of the respondent council.

Lord Justice Purchas and Sir Michael Kerr agreed.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard for Mr G. C. Betteridge, Chippenham; Treasury Solicitor.

Prudence not relevant

Secretary of State for Social Security v Julien

Lack of financial prudence in entering into a mortgage agreement was not a relevant factor in a claim for income support in respect of mortgage payments, nor was the amount that could be claimed subject to a ceiling, under paragraph 10(6) of the Income Support General Regulations (SI 1987 No 1967).

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Mann and Sir Michael Kerr) so stated on April 2 in dismissing an appeal by the Secretary of State for Social Security against the decision of Mr Commissioner Johnson who had allowed an

appeal by Mr Peter Julien against the decision by a social security tribunal of his appeal against a decision of an adjudication officer that his housing costs, for the purpose of calculating income support, were restricted to £145.85 a week.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that Mr Julien, an interior designer, purchased a property in Hampstead in July 1989 for £700,000, which included a mortgage of £630,000. Then, he had a contract yielding £12,000 a month for ten months and another yielding £50,000 plus others. They were later dishonoured and his business collapsed. Payments under the

mortgage amounted to £1,753.71 a week.

His Lordship said that paragraph 10(6) showed that it was ability at the time of entry that was material. The tribunal had looked to prudence not ability and the commissioner had been correct to set aside his decision.

In deciding that Mr Julien had the ability at the material time, the commissioner had made a finding of fact which, on the evidence before him, was not open to challenge. The sum involved was spectacular but the same rules applied to Mr Julien as to those with more modest mortgages, for the regulations contained no ceiling upon the amount of relevant commitment.

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West Indies give bouncer rule short shrift



Cowdrey blames umpires

Hundreds of children spend the Easter holidays here flying their colorful kites in the centre of the racecourse, the kite-tails billowing like the palm-leaves in the gentle trade winds against an idyllic sky. Down at the Kensington Oval, however, these are not such halcyon days.

Sir Colin Cowdrey's election as chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) was met with less than unanimous approval, some Commonwealth countries being weary of the continuity of English administration. For the past three days, he has encountered unbroken criticism of last October's regulation of one bouncer per batsman per over from every official of the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC), from the president, Clyde Walcott, downwards.

The face of Test cricket has been changed. As Wessels, the indomitable Hudson and Kuiper have demonstrated in a Test match historic in more ways

than one, the menace of West Indies' traditionally fearsome pace bowlers has been blunted.

"They [the WICBC] feel disgruntled with what we've done, saying that it is aimed specifically at them," Cowdrey said yesterday. "Yet when I became chairman, we had to ask whether this [hostile bowling] was the game we wanted, was it the game the spectators wanted to play and the players wanted to watch. We felt, in a phrase, that it was not cricket, that it was another game, and it is our job to preserve the spirit of the game."

Cowdrey recalls being told by Les Ames that, on the way home from the Bodyline tour in 1933, he, Bob Wyatt and Herbert Sutcliffe agreed — Douglas Jardine and Gubby Allen having travelled separately — that bodyline should be buried for ever: but that Ames, who was England manager on Cowdrey's first West Indies tour as captain in 1967-8, had shrewdly observed that if ever big money

came into the game, the theory would inevitably rear its head again.

Things went wrong, Cowdrey reflects, because umpires did not exert the influence at their disposal; and captains were effectively dictating a policy for expediency. The old regime of shaking hands afterwards and going off for a pint had vanished.

During the career of Cowdrey — a batsman noted for his ability against fast bowling — the game was gradually altering. When he first walked out against Lindwall and Miller, he had no added protection other than a towel strapped to his thigh. "I never had the impression they were going to aim at me," he recalls.

It was the commercial impact of the Packer series that changed everything, following as it did the 5-1 drubbing of West Indies by Australia in 1975-6.

"I wasn't there," Cowdrey says, "but I later had a long talk with Viv Richards, who told me of the tactics of Thomson and Lillee and the racist taunting by Greg Chappell's players."

The reaction of Richards and Clive Lloyd was that if this was now the game, they would respond with the strength available to them. Holding and Roberts. The age of four fast bowlers had arrived.

Cowdrey dislikes the idea of legislation, but considers it was impossible to let the situation continue as it was. He believes that the regulation will help to bring back a game of skill and variation, will regenerate spin bowling, and will oblige the quicker bowlers to work for the level of skill achieved by Brian Statham. "When every ball was aimed at

your off-stump ball and you had to play a stroke."

Is one bouncer per batsman per over too restrictive, Cowdrey wonders? Yet if the limit was increased to two, then in 30 overs with the 'new ball' before lunch, 120 bouncers, given a single in each over, would become theoretically legitimate.

Cowdrey reflects that even Sir Donald Bradman, the master of the hook, disliked the ball aimed at the head against which it is impossible to play a proper stroke; and that Bradman would like to see the one-day rule applied to Test cricket — the ball delivered at the throat to be a no-ball and a run conceded.

"There has been too much of that for the good and the fun of the game," Cowdrey says. "Maybe one bouncer only is too strict, but it will make the captains think more about tactics, about bowling changes. We want to encourage self-regulation, in the way it exists in golf. One West Indies official, whom I will not

name, has admitted to me that the regulation will improve their bowlers."

This is not the view of the majority of fanatical Barbados spectators. Gladstone Holder has been sitting in the same seat behind the bowler's arm in the Challenger stand since 1955, and has not missed a Test except in 1989, when he was in Britain for an eye operation.

Yesterday, he said laughingly: "The people who did this should be taken out and shot. Bowlers are not there as servants of the batsmen; they should be free to make the ball lift, and it's up to the batsman to deal with it." The irony is, of course, that had the regulation been proposed in the Seventies, then Australia, who as founder-members of ICC with England have the power of veto, would have blocked the regulation. West Indies have not that right.

Test match report, page 34

Seeds struggle in world snooker championship

McManus keeps young players in ascendancy

By PHIL YATES

THE prowess of snooker's emergent youth, illustrated so graphically by Peter Ebdon's remarkable 10-4 victory over Steve Davis on Sunday night, was again in evidence as Alan McManus beat Mike Hallett, the eighth seed, 10-8 in the first round of the Embassy world championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday.

McManus, voted young player of the year in 1991, had already proved on numerous occasions during his 20-month professional career that he has a strong temperament. That, in addition to the inconsistency of his opponent, were the main factors behind the result.

Hallett, whose season has plunged into crisis since he captured the Belgian and Scottish Masters titles last September, trailed 7-3 but won two frames after facing hefty deficits before McManus made a break of 83 in the thirteenth and won the next on the black to move four ahead with five to play.

This seemingly impregnable lead was eroded to only one frame, at 8-9, but Hallett's loose safety shot in the eighteenth ended the late rally. McManus held his composure to fashion a break off 44. He now awaits the winner of the first round match between Dennis Taylor and Mick Price, which concludes today.

Neil Foulds, the world No. 6, laboured to a 4-2 lead over Jason Ferguson, ranked 102 places below him and making his first appearance in the final stages of the championship. The first frame lasted 66 minutes — three minutes shorter than the longest ever at the Crucible — while Foulds's best effort was a 132 total clearance in the sixth.

Jim Wych, the amiable Canadian who reached the quarter-finals in 1980 and has not won a match at this venue since, recovered to beat Dean Reynolds, the world No. 12, 10-7. Reynolds will now lose his place in the top 16 when the rankings receive their annual revision at the end of the event.

Leading 7-3, Wych, the world No. 57, briefly wavered. A 114 break, the first century of the final stages, allowed Reynolds to level at 7-7. Wych, one of only two playing



Well-earned break: Ebdon savouring success yesterday after his defeat of Davis

professionals with a university degree, passed this considerable examination of character by taking the next three frames, the last on the black.

"I haven't been totally committed to snooker like most of the other players," said Wych, who has missed a total of three years on the circuit establishing snooker clubs in Edmonton and his native Calgary. Another season-long sabbatical was forced upon him when his father underwent open-heart surgery.

"The clubs were set up as

my security blanket and now they are going well and my father is also fully recovered," Wych said.

"He's just reached 82 and all he's interested in is reducing his golf handicap. Even without my problems, I've lacked dedication and desire, unlike these youngsters, who all have the eye of the tiger." One of the youngsters in question, James Wattana, made light of his first appearance here. He compiled six breaks over 40, including a 61 in the last frame of the session, to move into a virtual

unassailable 7-2 lead over Tony Jones, last year's European Open champion.

RESULTS: First round: Sunday: P Ebdon (Eng) 10-4 S Davis (Wls), 10-4. Frame scores (Ebdon first): 124-0, 105-0, 39-62, 10-73, 10-73, 74-20, 76-47, 83-46, 83-42, 84-8, 72-19, 80-35, 77-17. Yesterday: J Wych (Can) 10-7 D Reynolds (Eng), 10-7. Frame scores (Wych first): 44-88, 10-1, 47-39, 80-1, 56-8, 81-50, 18-81, 37-38, 88-64, 75-40, 64-4, 57-74, 43-7, 0-115, 60-7, 67-23, 59-47. A McManus (Sco) 10-8 M Hallett (Eng), 10-8. Frame scores (McManus first): 65-6, 59-30, 37-40, 82-30, 135-1, 70-24, 75-1, 67-32, 57-65, 58-43, 83-7, 61-57, 64-7, 68-18, 74-1, J Wattana (Thail) 10-0 T Jones (Eng), 7-2. Frame scores (Wattana first): 64-51, 105-23, 69-1, 60-10, 65-34, 52-23, 60-28, 59-17, N Foulds (Eng) 4-2 J Ferguson (Eng), 4-2. Frame scores (Foulds first): 105-48, 61-115, 55-21, 46-58, 25-68, 132-0, 68-29, 121-7.

WEIGHTLIFTING

Bulgarians fail second drugs test

Sofia: Six members of Bulgaria's national team were banned from competition for two years yesterday after a second drugs test on them proved positive. The weightlifters, who include two former world champions, tested positive on Sunday following an initial, routine test by their coaches at the National Sports Medicine Centre before the European championships, which begin in Hungary tomorrow.

Urine samples taken 48 hours earlier showed the lifters had used the weight-reducing diuretic, saluretic. The six lifters include Petar Stefanov, the 1989 world champion in the 110kg category, and Plamen Bratoychev, the 1989 world champion at 82kg. (Reuters)

Miandad to lead Pakistan on tour

By ALAN LEE

THE Pakistan selectors appear to have accepted that Imran Khan really is not fit enough to tour England this summer. After weeks of conflicting claims, they announced yesterday that Javed Miandad would lead the party, with Salim Malik as his vice-captain.

Imran, who said in the immediate aftermath of Pakistan's World Cup triumph that he would once more be delaying his retirement to bring his team to England, remains troubled by a shoulder injury that restricts his bowling but, at least in Australia, did not hinder his batting.

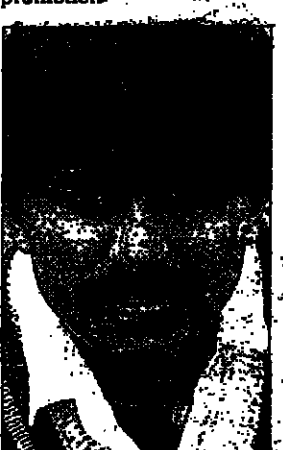
Miandad has also had fitness problems with a back injury and a stomach condition but he has now, presumably, been given a cleaner bill of health than Imran.

A further twist to this saga cannot yet be ruled out. Scoping was rife in the English game last week following the initial reports of Imran's decision, and Graham Gooch, for one, said he still expected to see him here.

There may be more to the situation than meets the eye and discord between the strong-willed Imran and the Pakistan board, not an uncommon occurrence over the years, cannot be ruled out.

For now, however, the job belongs to Miandad, who showed during the World Cup that his batting ability remains intact but who, in the past, has never captained Pakistan with the authority that Imran wields so naturally. Miandad has won 11 of the 28 Tests in which he has been captain but his batting form has often deteriorated with added responsibility.

Malik endured a dreadful World Cup, never once showing the brilliant strokeplay of which he is capable, but the wisdom he gained from his summer of county cricket with Essex last year has no doubt been a factor in his promotion.



Miandad: promoted

Hooper aiming to come back at Headingley

KENT are hoping that Carl Hooper, the West Indian all-rounder, will have recovered from a broken finger in time to play for them at the end of this month.

He has broken the fourth finger on his right hand, an injury that ruled him out of the Test against South Africa in Bridgetown. Hooper is aiming to play against Yorkshire at Headingley in the Benson and Hedges Cup on April 30.

Maynard's elevation is a snub to Morris

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

HUGH Morris, who earned high praise for his leadership of the England A team in the Caribbean last month, is struggling to come to terms with being told he has been stripped of all responsibility within his county side, Glamorgan.

Morris, aged 28, was informed only last Thursday that his job as vice-captain had gone to Matthew Maynard. No explanation was apparently offered and the natural assumption that it is a move designed to get the best out of the gifted but erratic Maynard is no consolation to Morris. He is hurt and bewildered and it is only being one of the nicest men in cricket that prevents him wanting to say so.

Having become the county's youngest captain, at the age of 22, Morris gave up the post in 1989 because it was affecting his form. His handover to the experienced and respected Alan Butcher came with an implicit understanding that he might take on the job again in the future.

As Butcher is 38, that moment might have been thought imminent, especially as Morris says he has re-

gained his appetite for captaincy and greatly enjoyed his duties in the West Indies. The appointment of Maynard, evidently made by Butcher himself, would seem to preclude the possibility and has probably sabotaged whatever prospects Morris might have had of captaining the senior England team in India next winter.

Butcher is carrying an injury and Maynard, who remains suspended from Test cricket for touring South Africa, is likely to lead Glamorgan again today when they begin their Benson and Hedges Cup campaign at Durham.

His opposite number will be David Graveney, who managed the unsanctioned tour but, interestingly, does not believe the bans should be lifted just yet.

Graveney's priority will be to retain perspective within his side following Sunday's debut win over Lancashire, though with so many old heads at his disposal, this should pose no great problem.

The University ground will house another big crowd, doubtless hoping for more

savagery from Dean Jones, but the evocative feature of the game is the meeting of the old chums and ageing superstars, Ian Botham and Viv Richards. Not many years ago, when both were lorded it with Somerset, who could have foreseen such a reunion, in such improbable colours?

Botham's final contribution to Worcestershire was to help them win last year's Benson and Hedges Cup. Their defence begins with a home game against Derbyshire, but Sunday's defeat by Yorkshire has already indicated that their batting may now be thin, especially if Graeme Hick keeps his England place.

Lancashire, chastened by Sunday's upset in the north-east, have no respite. They are at Chelmsford against Essex, worthy favourites for everything and now strengthened by the inclusion of Neil Foster.

Middlesex ought to have no trouble beating the Minor Counties but attention at Lord's will focus on Angus Fraser, whose comeback takes another step when he bowls off a full run-up for the first time.

Gallian shows promise

By IVO TENNANT

THE PARKS (final day of three): Oxford University drew with Worcestershire.

AS IS the modern way, both at The Parks and Fenner's, Worcestershire opted for batting practice rather than enforcing the follow-on and recording a victory that only Wisden would recall.

Gallian's six-hour century was highly encouraging to Oxford University. Six of Worcestershire's bowlers had played Test cricket and they were trying, make no mistake. Resuming on 84,

Gallian, a 20-year-old freshman, made 112 before losing concentration against Illingworth just before lunch.

On a pitch of no great pace or bounce, Illingworth was given 45 overs. Four wickets was his return, and thereafter Worcestershire concerned themselves only with batting out the day.

The bowlers had their turn first, but Worcestershire lost four wickets for 29, three of them to Jch, who could fill out to become genuinely quick. Radford and Dille avoided further embarrassment.

WORCESTERSHIRE: First innings 413-4 dec (Slymworth 133, T M Moody 100 not out, Currell 78, Lushall 67).

Second innings: 18 J Rhodes c Montgomery b Jch 3, R K Wignall c Gallian b Jch 12, P J Newport c Kew b Jch 10, N V Radford c Gallian b Davies 10, G R Dille b Davies 30, D A Leachford not out 11, A C H Seymour c Lovell b Stone 2, T S Currie not out 5, Extras (b 5, w 1, nb 6) 12. Total 113.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 52-3, 3-77, 4-29, 5-19, 6-153, 7-155.

BOWLING: Jch 14-4-4-3, Gallian 4-1-4-0, Anderson 5-2-20-1, Davies 12-1-5-2, Gueje 3-0-22-0, Stone 6-1-17-1, Montgomery 2-2-0-0.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First innings: 32 R K Wignall c Gallian b Jch 12, P J Newport c Kew b Jch 10, N V Radford c Gallian b Davies 10, G R Dille b Davies 30, D A Leachford not out 11, A C H Seymour c Lovell b Stone 2, T S Currie not out 5, Extras (b 5, w 1, nb 6) 12. Total 113.

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**Wednesday plan
a sensational
end to the season**

Upset result: Keane, of Nottingham Forest, falls foul of the Manchester United defence during the League leaders' defeat. Report, page 34

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: C Woods, R
Nilsson, P King, C Palmer, N Pearson, P
Harhurst, D Wilson, J Sheridan (sub: J
Harkes), D Johnson (sub: T Francis), P
Williams, N Worthington.

NORWICH CITY: M Walton; M Bower, C
Woodthorpe, P Blades, J Pooleton, J Goss, R
Fox, R Peck, R Newman, D Beckford (sub:
L Power), A Johnson.

Papin ready to say his goodbyes

by SC Wattenscheid. In the Dutch league, two goals each from Vanenburg and Kieft inspired PSV Eindhoven's 5-0 win over RKC Waalwijk that preserved their lead at the top.

Goals were the order of the day in Spain as Real Madrid told Barcelona "anything you can do, we can do better". First Barcelona beat Albacete 7-1, prompting Johann

Cruijff, their coach, to say: "Our victory is going to affect Madrid. It's as if we had won two-and-a-half points."

Real, who played Español 2-4 hours later, responded by winning their game 7-0.

George Hagi, Real's Romanian midfielder player, said afterwards: "It's true that Barcelona's result influenced us a bit. We came out in the mood to score lots of goals."

Luton on

Luton on familiar territory

Play the numbers game

March No. 23 sees Exeter City play Hull City. Neither has set the third division.

<p>Thursday, April 25 Release starts</p> <p>FIRST DIVISION</p> <p>Chelsea vs Arsenal Coventry vs West Ham Luton vs Aston Villa Norwich vs Walsingham Nottm F vs QPR Southampton vs Oldham Tottenham vs Everton</p>	<p>THIRD DIVISION</p> <p>1 Brentford vs Shrewsbury 2 Southampton vs Reading 3 Millwall vs Stockport 4 Burny vs Darlington 5 Walsingham vs Huddersfield 6 Leyton vs Exeter 7 Stoke vs Chester 8 Swindon vs Huddersfield 9 West Brom vs Preston</p> <p>Not on coupons: Brentford vs Fulham (Sunday);</p>	<p>SCOTTISH PREMIER</p> <p>1 Aberdeen vs Falkirk 2 Celtic vs Dunfermline 3 Hearts vs Airdrie 4 St John's vs Albion 5 St Mirren vs Dundee Utd</p> <p>Not on coupons: Motherwell vs Rangers</p>
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of an ongoing Crystal
Shelflife
Lived in
Manchester, United Kingdom
Manchester City
County
United in Leeds (Sunday)

SECOND DIVISION
Barnsley v Wolves
Barnsley v Millwall
Barnsley v Reading
Bristol City v Cardiff

THIRD DIVISION
Barnsley v Millwall
Barnsley v Reading
Bristol City v Cardiff

FOURTH DIVISION
Barnsley v Millwall
Barnsley v Reading
Bristol City v Cardiff

SCOTTISH FIRST
1 Ayr v Blairgowrie
2 Dundee v Rangers
3 Hamilton v Kilmarnock
4 Perth v Aberdeen
5 Raith v Clydebank
6 Stirling v Morton

SCOTTISH SECOND
X Alloa v East Fife

Cambria U P Vale
Glasgow W Watford
Middlesex B Bristol
Newcastle V Portsmouth
Oxford v Ipswich
Oxfordshire T Tranmere
Swindon P Reading
on an outposts: Charl-
ton v Leicester

HIS LOANS: LGE
PRIME DIVISION

1 Aarhøgen v Fildesley
2 Charlton v Sheffshead
3 Droydsdon v B Auckland
4 Charlton v Exeter
5 Cambridge v Bangor
6 Melford v Marescaire

2 Brochin v Queen's Park
1 Cowden's v O of Stk
1 E Strling v Clyde
2 Stanki' mof v Dumb'rt'n
1 Stannar v Alton
Not on coupon: Barwick
v Arbroath

REDIBLE CHANCE (home team): Barns-
burn, Cambridge, Swindon, Bham-

NEWCASTLE: Barnsley, Bradford City, Exeter, Forest Green, Halifax, Middlesbrough, Scarsdale, Sheffield, St Johnstone, Stranraer.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Coventry, Birmingham, Bury, Celtic, Dundee, Ayr, Wigan, Wrexham, Sunderland, Dumbarton, Drawn: Barnsley, Bradford City, Fleetwood.

□ Vince Wright

midnight, but he was not further
their father's sentence. But
for a number of years inter-
ventions were made. In 1961, it was
a fact that he could have

Burnley re-
THEir automatic pro-
motion from the fourth divi-
sion is down to four clubs
their First Division Burnley
returned to the top yesterday
despite being held to a 1-1
draw at home by Scar-
borough. The point was enough
to take them ahead of Black-
pool on goal difference after
Blackpool had gone 2-0 at
Rotherham, who moved into
second place themselves as a
result.

BOXING Change of

opponent for Eubank

CHRIS Eubank will defend the WBO super-middleweight title against a third-choice opponent — John Jarvis — at Manchester's G-Mex Centre on Saturday. Jarvis, ranked seventh by the WBO, replaces a fellow-American, Ron Esseri, who has an ear infection. Eubank's original opponent, Juan Carlos Gimenez, pulled out with a hand injury.

Jarvis, in training for another fight, said: "My weight is perfect and I couldn't be fitter. This is the chance I have been waiting for."

Mickey Duff, Frank Bruno's promoter, is to ask the British Boxing Board of Control to appoint two judges for Bruno's bout.

Manchester United's failure allows Wilkinson's team to regain leadership

Leeds revitalise League challenge

Leeds United..... 2
Coventry City..... 0

By Ian Ross

THE prospect of Leeds United returning the League championship to West Yorkshire for the first time in 18 years — a rather fanciful prospect in recent weeks — was given far greater substance yesterday.

Fifteen minutes after learning of Manchester United's defeat by Nottingham Forest at Old Trafford, Leeds produced a solid, if unspectacular performance to defeat Coventry City, but for once it was the result, and not its manner, which was of such immense importance.

While this victory was sufficient to return Leeds to the top of the first division, it will have done little or nothing to alter Howard Wilkinson's assertion that one of the most intriguing championship races in memory will remain unresolved until the final day of the season.

Manchester United, who trail Leeds by a single point, must win against West Ham United at Upton Park tomorrow night if they are to reclaim the leadership and, more important, the initiative.

Rather sensibly, Leeds played out the opening 15 minutes at pedestrian pace. Once the pattern of their pressure punctuated by spirited, if somewhat rare, Coventry counter-attacks had been established, a surprisingly fluent game began to unfold.

After a succession of promising assaults had come to grief on the perimeter of the Coventry penalty area, McAllister and Wallace attempted to engineer a decisive opening by utilising brute force, driving in firm shots which were only fractionally wide of their intended target.

Wallace, whose form has been, at best, erratic since the turn of the year, was to enjoy the best opportunity of the first half when Batty's delightful pass drifted over the Coventry defence in the 32nd minute.

Unfortunately, as Wallace attempted to apply a finishing touch, the ball became



Wright to reply: the Arsenal forward bundles the ball past Hooper in his side's 4-0 win over Liverpool yesterday. Report, page 32

lugged beneath his right boot and he was unable to control before a defender intervened.

Although the Leeds goal had been subjected to only minimal pressure, Coventry were a little unfortunate not to take advantage of a defensive blunder shortly after the interval when Whyte and Lukic collided as they sought to intercept a pass which had been lofted from deep within the Coventry half.

Gallagher, who collected the rebound, was not really in a position to shoot but with no support available to him, he had no alternative. The ball, to Leeds' relief, cannoned into the chest of Whyte and was cleared.

Whyte was to make a more orthodox, and important, contribution in the 53rd minute when he applied the crucial touch in the move which was, in effect, to decide the outcome.

Sterland's free kick was of no greater menace than those he had been delivering all evening until Ogrizovic hesitated as he made his move to

collect. Whyte flicked the ball further into the penalty area and after Borrows had sliced the ball into the air, Fairclough rose unchallenged to score with a simple header.

The game was settled in the 81st minute when Leeds were given a penalty which initially appeared to be controversial until television replays confirmed the award to be justified.

Cantona, following up after Ogrizovic dived down to his left to deny Speed, swept in a low shot which McGrath, standing on the goal line, blocked with an outstretched hand. After consulting a linesman, the referee, Robert Nixon, awarded a penalty, which McAllister duly converted, and dismissed McGrath for his action.

LEEDS UNITED: J Lukic, J Newsome, A Donaghy, D Batty, C Fairclough, C Whyte, G Strachan, R Wallace, L Chapman, G McAllister, G Speed, S Sterland, C Shutt.

COVENTRY CITY: S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, K Sansom, S Robson, A Pearson, P Atkinson, S Flynn, M Gynn, P Furlong, E Sheeringham, I Woon.

Referee: R Nixon.

Manchester United..... 1
Nottingham Forest..... 2

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

IN FRONT of the biggest

League gate of the season, the title contenders were yesterday revealed to be impostors. Against a hotch-pot of a side featuring Nigel Clough as a central defender, Manchester United subsided to the second ignominious home defeat of their campaign.

The experience may not have been as humbling as on New Year's day, when they lost 4-1 to Queens Park Rangers, but the impact promises to be more significant. The next time they appear at Old Trafford will be on the closing, and potentially decisive, day.

Alex Ferguson has persistently claimed that the title will be won away from the bumpy and rutted pitch on which United's rhythm has invariably been disrupted.

Yet, to be crowned as champions, they will probably have to triumph there over Tottenham Hotspur.

The occasion was supposed to have been an appropriate party to celebrate the end of United's empty quarter of a century, as well as the farewell appearance of Gary Lineker. The fixture, which is scheduled for May 2, but may be postponed 24 hours for the benefit of television, promises to create as tense a finale as at Anfield three years ago.

The frayed nerves of United's followers were stretched further when Nottingham Forest, resembling an experimental outfit, took the lead in the 32nd minute. Nobody harried either Sheeringham near a touchline or Woon, when he accepted a return pass. He cut inside a token gesture of a tackle by Kanchelskis and struck a shot from the edge of the area, which Schuster allowed to run underneath his outstretched left arm.

Forest's unusual defence, had until then adequately

protected Crossley. Yet within three minutes he was beaten, when Blackburn's free kick was headed firmly back by Bruce for McClair to nod home his 24th League goal of the season from close range.

Apart from McClair, no one at United has been able consistently to apply finishing touches. Ferguson chose an attack led by Giggs instead of Hughes but the alteration did not solve the productivity problem.

In spite of the speed of Kanchelskis and Sharpe on the flanks, United failed genuinely to stretch Crossley

again until midway through the second half. Then the goalkeeper, overlooked for the Rainbow Cup final, defied McClair with an acrobatic save which brought the crowd of 47,576 to its feet.

Soon many of them sank disconsolately back into their seats. A quick free kick taken by Keane caught United unaware. Sheeringham's dummy cleared a convenient central path for Gemmell who promptly steered in the winner.

Forest, for whom Walker put on a flawless exhibition of defending, kept their composure even after Hughes had been brought on.

Tomorrow United play at West Ham, whose spirit may have been broken, and on Sunday they tackle Liverpool at Anfield.

MANCHESTER UNITED: P Schuster, C Pearson, D Irwin, S Bruce, M Pugh, G Hughes, B McClair, R Giggs, L Sharpe (sub: M Donaghy). NOTTINGHAM FOREST: M Crossley, B Lowe, S Williams, B Walker, G Crossy, R Keane, J O'Grady, S Gemmell, N Clough, E Sheeringham, I Woon.

Referee: J Kay.

At Elland Road. Att: 29,582. Ref: R Nixon

HT: 0-0. LEEDS UTD 2 COVENTRY 0

Scorers: Fairclough 53, McAllister (pen) 81

Sent off: Cantona 75 (Wallace), Shutt 83 (Strachan)

Bookings: Robson 42, Ndlovu 73 (Furlong), Emerson 84 (Gallagher)

Subs: Cantona 75 (Wallace), Shutt 83 (Strachan)

Shots (on target/total): Leeds 12/22, Coventry 2/6

Corners (left/right): Leeds 2/7, Coventry 1/1

Crosses (left/right): Leeds 19/29, Coventry 15/7

Free kicks/pens against: Leeds 13, Coventry 15

LEEDS UTD (4-4-2) Goal Crosses Fouls By On

J Lukic 1 7 2 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

J Newsome 1 7 2 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

A Donaghy 1 7 2 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

D Batty 1 7 2 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

C Fairclough 2 2 2 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

C Whyte 1 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

G Strachan 3 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

R Wallace 3 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

L Chapman 3 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

G McAllister 3 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

G Speed 1 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

S Sterland 1 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

C Shutt 1 11 1 - S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2) Goal Crosses Fouls By On

S Ogrizovic 1 2 2 1

B Borrows 1 2 2 1

K Sansom 1 2 2 1

S Robson 1 2 2 1

A Pearson 1 2 2 1

P Atkinson 1 2 2 1

S Flynn 1 2 2 1

M Gynn 1 2 2 1

P Furlong 1 2 2 1

K Sansom 1 2 2 1

S Robson 1 2 2 1

A Pearson 1 2 2 1

P Atkinson 1 2 2 1

S Flynn 1 2 2 1

M Gynn 1 2 2 1

P Furlong 1 2 2 1

K Sansom 1 2 2 1

S Robson 1 2 2 1

A Pearson 1 2 2 1

P Atkinson 1 2 2 1

S Flynn 1 2 2 1

M Gynn 1 2 2 1

P Furlong 1 2 2 1

K Sansom 1 2 2 1

S Robson 1 2 2 1

A Pearson 1 2 2 1

P Atkinson 1 2 2 1

S Flynn 1 2 2 1

M Gynn 1 2 2 1

P Furlong 1 2 2 1

K Sansom 1 2 2 1

S Robson 1 2 2 1

A Pearson 1 2 2 1

Hudson gives South Africa the advantage

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

ANDREW Hudson finished with 163 against West Indies as South Africa gained a first-innings lead of 83 here yesterday on the third day of the Test match, which was again boycotted by local people. South Africa were dismissed for 345 shortly after lunch.

Hudson was seventh out at 311, completely beaten by the pace of a yorker from Benjamin which ripped his off stump out of the ground. He batted for eight hours and 40 minutes and hit 20 fours, mostly drives or leg-side hits, and faced 384 balls. Apart from chances on Sunday at 22 and 66, he avoided serious error in a remarkable display for a batsman still relatively new to international pressure.

Hudson, aged 26, recently obtained a business and economics degree at Natal University and hopes to combine cricket with a career in marketing. Six years ago he had a season with Bradley Hills in the Huddersfield league. He has become a devout Christian. Asked about his batting in this game, he said: "If you want me to say anything about this innings I know whom to thank."

He pointed towards the sky. "My faith gives me strength of mind and peace and I can accept it whether I get a duck or a hundred."

It took West Indies an hour before they separated Hudson and Kuiper when South Africa resumed at 254 for four. Patterson made the breakthrough when Kuiper, on the back foot, got a thin edge to the wicketkeeper. Kuiper only played in this match because it was felt his occasional bowling might be

needed if Pringle's rib cartilage problem recurred. He served South Africa nobly as he restrained his natural attacking instincts in a stay of three and a quarter hours and helped to add 92 in 52 overs.

When West Indies switched to Adams's left-arm spin, Richardson, the new batsman, soon lifted a catch to long-off. Ten minutes before lunch, Hudson's stalwart innings ended and, in the next over, Snell was unluckily run out. Pringle pulled Benjamin with ferocious force back towards the bowler, who deflected it into the stumps with Snell out of his ground. After the break, the South African tallenders hit out and Adams, who only played because Hooper was injured, finished with four wickets.

Some confusion during the first two days of the match about the ICC's 90-overs-a-day rule was clarified by Ramman Subba Row, the match referee, before play started. In the domestic Red Stripe Cup, the West Indies board allow an over to be deducted for each drinks break and also for every two wickets that fall.

Subba Row and Clyde Walcott, the West Indies board president, have now interpreted the regulation in a different way. In this Test, 90 overs must be bowled daily. The deduction for drinks and wicket-falls is only applied when calculating average over-rates to ascertain whether a side has incurred fines for bowling too slowly. This slightly ambiguous rule is expected to be tightened at the ICC meeting next July.

David Miller, page 31

WEST INDIES: First innings 254 (N L T)

Arthurton 58, D L Haynes 58

South Africa: First innings 345

M W Hudson c Lara b Ambrose 163

K C Weseloh c Adams b Ambrose 89

P N Kirsten c Lara b Benjamin 11

W P Kruger c Williams b Patterson 34

A P Kuiper c Ambrose b Adams 8

J O Richardson c Ambrose b Adams 21

R P Snell run out 6

M W Pringle c Walsh b Adams 15

A A Donald c Williams b Adams 4

Umpires: D M Archer and S U Bucknor

Results, page 33

Driver killed in 100mph crash

BY STEPHEN SLATER

MARCEL Albers, one of the brightest young drivers in the British Formula Three motor racing championship, was killed in a 100mph crash at Thruxton, Hampshire, yesterday.

Albers, aged 24, from Rotterdam, was trapped in his Ralt car after it had somersaulted towards spectators and then hit an earth bank and safety fence.

The fence prevented the car, or large pieces of it, hurtling towards a crowd of several hundred on the bank at the Club Chicane, one of the most popular spectator points on the circuit. Although small pieces of debris caused cuts and bruises and some spectators were treated for shock, nobody was seriously injured.

The British Automobile Racing Club medical team fought trackside for over an hour to stabilise Albers's condition before transferring him to Salisbury Hospital.

Albers won the first race of the 1992 season and in this, the third round of the championship, he had battled for the lead with Gil de Ferran, of Brazil, early on. Albers had then dropped down the field and was fighting back at the end of the eighth lap when the accident occurred.

Breaking from a maximum speed of over 150mph down to 70 for the second-gear chicane, Albers's front wheel hit the tail of the car ahead and his car was catapulted over ten feet in the air into the bank. The race was stopped with de Ferran the winner, on positions at the previous lap. "This is a tragedy which effects us all," he said.

However, organisers decided that the rest of the meeting should continue. John Cleland's Vauxhall Cavalier won the Esso British touring car championship race.

Results, page 33

Lomas excels in singles silver-medal effort

BY RICHARD EATON

LISA Lomas became the first English table tennis player for a decade to reach the final of a European singles championship when she won a silver medal in Stuttgart yesterday.

Lomas, aged 24, who had saved three match points and survived a 20-minute argument during her match against Galina Melnik of Russia, on Sunday, yesterday played three Dutch opponents. Her clever chop and float defence only failed her at the final hurdle against Bettine Vrieskoop, a former champion, to whom she lost 21-10, 21-18, 21-17.

Earlier, Lomas, the Eng-

land No. 1, won 21-16, 21-12, 21-15 against the unseeded Gerdie Keen, who was unable to fathom the back spin and became bogged down with pushing. Then Lomas scored a magnificent 21-14, 21-7, 21-11 victory over Mirjam Hooman, the English Open champion, who tried slow top spin with occasional hits but made mistakes when she hit hard.

Vrieskoop, aged 30, from Leiden, retired after the 1988 Olympics but found it impossible to stay away. Yesterday, her mixture of consistent rolling top spin and drop shots drew Lomas in and broke up her cobweb of defence.

Vrieskoop had won the championships ten years before, when, coincidentally, she beat another Englishwoman, Jill Hammersley-Parker. Hammersley-Parker, now the England coach, said: "Vrieskoop is the same brainy player as she was ten years ago, and probably the only difference is that she hits a bit harder now because of the glue they put under the bat rubber."

Both Hammersley-Parker and Lomas can be satisfied with their work. Lomas's improvement, signalled by wins this season over several high-class players and by successes in last week's team event against Daniela Guergelicheva, the reigning champion, and Csilla Batorfi, the European No. 1, has mostly occurred since the English Table Tennis Association has found the extra money to help the leading women practise and compete more often. Hammersley-Parker has been moved to a full-time role and Lomas, among others, is showing the benefit.

Lomas, aged 24, is a better all-round player than when she won a bronze in the 1986 Europeans in Prague. In particular, she has learnt to mix her attacking rallies occasionally with a top-spin loop follow-up behind her serve and to counterattack fiercely on the backhand when she has

lured an opponent into putting the ball too high.

England's other hope, Chen Xinhua, the national champion, lost 21-11, 21-13, 21-12, in the quarter-finals to Jorg Rosskopf, of Germany, who went on to win a men's event which revealed the strength in depth of European table tennis. Jorgen Persson, the world champion, lost to Andrej Grubba, the 33-year-old former World Cup winner from Poland, and Jan-Ove Waldner, the former world champion, was beaten by Zoran Primorac, of Croatia.

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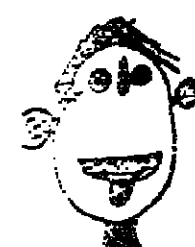
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Lomas: improved

LISA Lomas became the first English table tennis player for a decade to reach the final of a European singles championship when she won a silver medal in Stuttgart yesterday.

Earlier, Lomas, the Eng-



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PARENTS
What can you
tell from
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LIFE & TIMES

MEDIA
Why taking
the tabloids is
good for
democracy



TUESDAY APRIL 21 1992

SL

Please adjust your set of values

David Plowright, the former chairman of Granada TV, argues that quality television and hard-nosed economics can mix, if the ingredients are right

Once again politicians have shown that their interest in television is at its height during an election. While most people regard it as something to watch, most politicians think of it as something to appear on. Its power of persuasion suspends criticism of its costs, its levels of staffing, efficiency and structure. For the brief period of the campaign it is judged on its performance as an instrument of propaganda.

Naturally, television does not escape criticism from the party that loses. The winners are more charitable, so perhaps it is timely to try to persuade them of the need to correct a recent and deeply flawed piece of broadcasting legislation which is putting the industry at grave and unnecessary risk. The Broadcasting Act of 1990 is without friends even among those who conceived it, and while broadcasting does not rate as highly on the political agenda as the recession, taxation or the health service, it is a public service under threat and deserving of some debate.

The legitimate questions to explore are: what amounts of revenue from independent television companies should go to the government for access to the comparatively scarce resource of a broadcasting frequency; what amounts should be spent on a programme service that meets the requirement of programmes of range, quality and diversity, is predominantly British and regionally structured; how the interests of shareholders are reconciled with the other imperatives; and how does the BBC retain its position as the senior and most respected service in the world?

In the next few years, the greatest threat to broadcasting standards will be the limited finance available for British programme making. Money alone does not ensure quality, but it certainly helps. Add in the ingredients of creative flair, experience, commitment and a willingness to take risks and you have a formula that goes a long way towards creating a service of quality.

The economics of broadcasting have tended to dominate media debates since the Conservative government chose to deliver television to the market place. There is an understandable tendency to try to simplify the situation by presenting a picture of an industry divided into two camps — on the one hand hard-eyed businessmen more interested in balance sheets than creative achievement, and on the other dedicated producers committed to quality programming but guilty of wanton extravagance.

Like most stereotypes, this is wide of the mark and obscures rather than clarifies the underlying issues. There is much more at stake than personality clashes. It is closer to the truth to say that most of those involved in the management of

commercial television share the same objectives of delivering a decent service to viewers while making a reasonable profit for shareholders. Such arguments as there are focus on finding the right balance to meet these aims.

This is a problem of concern to broadcasting as a whole. Nobody, even the most eagle-eyed accountant, sets out with the deliberate intention of making television programmes of unacceptable quality. If they did so, they would soon prove to be a liability to their company, and their business judgment would be questioned.

Similarly, those who earn their living by making programmes are not incorrigible spendthrifts. Production finance is hard to come by these days and those who manage to lay their hands on some want to make it stretch as far as possible. The legitimate question to explore is how far it can be stretched before the programmes suffer.

As someone with a good deal of practical experience of television operations, I have never seen any natural link between quality programming and lax management, light-touch accountancy or self-indulgent production methods. Granada always had a reputation



Grand Granada: (clockwise from above) Jeremy Brett as Sherlock Holmes; the documentary *28 Up*; and Helen Mirren in *Prime Suspect*



for being a tightly run ship, as many programme makers will testify. That is how Granada succeeded in combining good-quality production over the years with industry leadership in profitability, and to emerge after more than three decades as the sole survivor from the original round of ITV franchises.

I have no doubt my colleagues in Granada will continue to strive for the highest standards, because it is their instinct to do so and it makes sound business sense.

The real causes of current stresses in the industry lie deeper in its history. Commercial television in Britain has never operated in accordance with standard business principles and its adjustment to them is painful. It has always had its own artificially created economic climate, stormy at times but on the

whole temperate. A straitjacket of regulations covering every aspect of its operations was devised by Parliament long before the service was born. The ITV companies did not choose the ITV system; they inherited it. The determination to keep finance and programming as far apart as possible led MPs and

regulators to order it along paths which ran counter to the most basic tenets of free market philosophy.

For example, it was never designed to be cost-effective. It was seen by the government of the day as a means of underpinning regionalism at a time when devolution was high on the political

agenda — as it is again today. That is why as many as 15 separate broadcasting companies were brought into existence to cover a territory as comparatively small as the United Kingdom.

A normal business would have thought in terms of a far more conservative approach of branch offices, not the autonomous regional headquarters which were established and became strong manifestations of the government's devolutionary policy.

Similarly, the legislation virtually ruled out competition. Once a company had won a franchise, it earned the exclusive right to such television advertising revenue as was available in its area. Because the service was paid for by advertisers, not by the public, ITV could rely for most of its life on the same sort of shelter from market-place economics that the BBC had available to it via the licence fee, provided it fulfilled strict public service programme responsibilities. All of this added to the sense of isolation from the real world. Such a system could clearly not

have an indefinite life. For one thing its sheer onus was annoying to those who did not have a place within it. But there is no escaping the fact that it worked well for a remarkably long time. From the early 1950s to the late 1980s, Britain had a television service which, although not perfect, was acknowledged as a great deal better than most others in the world.

To ward against the dangers of complacency there was a requirement every ten years or so for companies to compete publicly for the renewal of their licences — and quite a number of them lost. A firm

Continued on page 6, col 1

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TOMORROW
John Mortimer on advocacy

Change, and its effect on the pocket

MID LIFE: Neil Lyndon on the declining value of money

Money has been much on my mind this week. If you are in any doubt whether you should consider yourself middle-aged, take a sure rule from me. You may know with categorical certainty that you have descended to your place among the crustaceans of midlife when you catch yourself saying: "Thirty years ago, a man would have had to work for a month to pay for that". It has been that kind of week.

A youth from the village has taken to coming to this house at the weekend to clean my car. He charges £3 for the wash and 50p to muck out the interior — a job from which Hercules himself would have shrunk after my son and his mates have been in the car for an hour with their gums, chocolates, crisps, drinks, toys and vile delight in foul air. I give him the work on the same principle that I always give lifts to hitch-hikers if they have got enough brains to place themselves in a spot on the roadside where I can safely stop. The principle is that, having been in that spot myself, I will always give a hand to those I find

there today. When I was 17, I spent Saturday mornings making a grimy mess of the wings and panels of Morris Minors. Vauxhall Crestas and Singer Gazelles for five shillings a time.

After my youthful double had finished the job last weekend, he explained that he would want to come, in future, on Sunday mornings. On Saturdays, he is going to be working in Woolworth in the local market town. I was beside myself with pleasure: my doppelganger had come to life. "My first holiday job was in Woolworth," I exclaimed. I thought I detected a minimal rolling of his eyes as he saw another hoar-laden anecdote approaching.

"I was 15," I said. "When the manager gave me the job, he said the pay would be £5 for a five and a half day week and I gasped aloud. 'Yes,' he said sternly, 'it's a lot of money. Isn't it; and you'll have to

work bloody hard to earn it.' "Five pounds a week," said the youth, obligingly. "Good heavens! I thought my pay was bad and they're paying me £2.75 an hour." He went off whistling with his bucket and my money. I retired to the kitchen to scratch my puzzled old head over a cup of coffee.

If he worked, as I did, a 55-hour week at Woolworth and they paid him £2.75 an hour, he would earn £151.25. That's 30 times the amount I was paid in 1961. Is this a true reflection of inflation and the decline in the value of money in the period? Or is a better guide to be drawn from the difference between the amounts we earned for car-washing? His £3 is 12 times my charge for the same job (I didn't offer an interior service: too much like hard work).



It seems possible, though I'd be grateful if we kept this to ourselves, that he is undercharging. Another possibility, far more comforting, is that I was overcharging for my services. His hourly rate at Woolworth is slightly unfavourable compared with the £3.50 he can earn in about three-quarters of an hour on

my car. My hourly rate at Woolworth was one shilling and nine old pence. By that measure, dear old Mrs Hamden should have been paying me, at most, two and six for the smears I left on the bonnet of her Morris Minor; and if she is still in this world to read these words, I imagine that she will be feeling, rightly, that she was skinned.

These calculations and comparisons may be head-spinning, confirming the uneasy feeling that we have been living through a Ruritanian era of tinpot finance, but they include some degrees of measurable reality. If you want to lose all feeling for the value of money, try spending a week with a nine-year-old.

On a single day's excursion with my son last week we got through more than £70. In the morning, we

went bowling: three games, £13.20. We went for lunch in a fast-food dive: two small pizzas, two large soft drinks and a single serving of garlic bread, £15.25. We bought a pair of trainers, nothing flash: £24.99. We went to see *Hook*: £6 for the tickets and £2.50 for drinks and popcorn. Add parking, petrol, crisps and drinks at the bowling alley, sweets along the road and you've topped £70.

Thirty years ago, a labouring man would have to work for a month to earn £70. I would have had to work for three and a half months in my holiday job at Woolworth. My young doppelganger would earn that amount in half a week. Even allowing for the effects of decimalisation and the Wilsonian deception of a depreciation which would make no difference to the pound in your purse, this colossal inflation must still be counted bewildering for those who

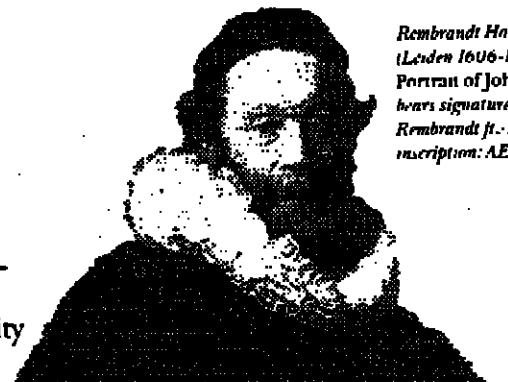
have lived through it. My son does seem able to retain some feelings of prudence in the face of this madness. "I don't like you to be spending all this money," he says, and means it. I don't like it either. The treats, I tell myself, are modest, the shoes essential. If I can't take my boy out for a day in his holidays and give him his idea of a good time, I tell myself, there is not much to be said for working at all.

I tell myself that I am doing nothing more than my own parents did for me when I was nine, though we travelled by bus when we went to see *The Pyjama Game*, ate our lunch in the Odeon Cafeteria and dreamt not of bowling alleys and foot-high cartons of popcorn. None of these admonitions and reassurances from self to self provides much comfort. It still feels like a hell of a lot of money demanded by an insanely extortionate world; but that, I guess, is how it must feel to be middle-aged.

TOMORROW
Single Life: Lynne Truss

8th July, 1992
A unique opportunity to be with
Johannes Uytenbogaert

— when his portrait by Rembrandt will be sold by Sotheby's in London. Painted in 1633, it is an exceptionally fine example of Rembrandt's work — the modelling of the face and the contours of the white collar are wholly characteristic of the artist's style in the early 1630s — and its authenticity has been confirmed by the Rembrandt Research Project.



Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn
(L. 1606-1669 Amsterdam).
Portrait of Johannes Uytenbogaert,
bears signature and date:
Rembrandt f. 1633 and bears
inscription: AET. 76, oil on canvas.

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS SALE: 1st MAY
This Rembrandt portrait is one of the highlights of our sale of Old Master Paintings on 8th July that will feature many fine works, ranging from portraits to still lifes and landscapes. To include your pictures with Johannes Uytenbogaert, please contact Julien Stock on 071-408 5413 as soon as possible.

THE WORLD'S LEADING FINE ART AUCTION HOUSE
SOTHEBY'S
FOUNDED 1744

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY: Paul Jeffrey plays a rich man turned beggarman in Richard II. The Royal Shakespeare Company, set during the English Civil War. Max Stafford-Clark directs. Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 255223), opens tonight, 7pm, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 1.30pm.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE II: The National production of Alan Bennett's play with Nigel Hawthorne as George II goes on a short regional tour. Directed by Nicholas Hytner. Theatre Royal, Newcastle (091-232 2061), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 2pm, Sat, 2.30pm.

THE FIFTY ANGLES: David Freeman's spectacular production of Prokofiev's melodrama, in which the gymnasts of the Malyinsky Acrobatic Troupe provide a constant, writhing accompaniment to the action. Edward Downes conducts. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, WC2 (01-240 1066), tonight, 8pm.

SPARKY ROLLINS: The title of one of his late films' returns. Sparky Rollins, sums up the standing of this influential and effortlessly lyrical player making a new appearance in Scotland. On Sunday he will perform at the Royal Palladium. Royal Concert Hall, Buchanan Street, Glasgow (041-221 5511), 7pm.

SOUND OF MUSIC: A new Wendy Toye production of the supery family musical goes on a countrywide tour and will reach Sadler's Wells in June. The Rodgers and Hammerstein show still holds the box-office record for an American musical in the West End. Leading the box-office charges will be Liz Robertson as Maria, the singing nanny-voice created on film by Julie Andrews, and Christopher Cazenove as Captain von Trapp. The production plays in Glasgow until May 2.

KING'S THEATRE: Glasgow (041-227 5511), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 2pm.

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW: Richard O'Brien's West End revival continues its round-about tour stopping off this week in Reading. Christopher Meehan directs a cast including Peter Blake, Barry Howard, Zella Burrow and Penelope McEwan. Next stop: Theatre

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

Royal, Hanley: Haggston Theatre, Queen's Walk, Reading (0734 591591), tonight, tomorrow, 8pm, Thurs-Sat, 7pm and 9.15pm.

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: Conductor Christoph Eschenbach and orchestra repeat the programme given last Wednesday at the Barbican. Beethoven's Quintet for piano and wind, and Piano Concerto No 1 (with Eschenbach as soloist) and Haydn's Unfinished in G for two flutes, and Symphony No 83. Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 6891), 7.45pm.

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET: Royal Ballet's touring company opens its Canterbury season with Peter Wright's production of Giselle, the story of a gentle peasant girl driven to her grave by the betrayal of her aristocratic lover. On Friday the programme changes to an attractive triple bill of one-act ballets.

SWAN LAKE: Northern Ballet Theatre has yet to turn its attention to the repertoire of the Swan Lake. In its place, the company has opted for a new production of Swan Lake, choreographed by American dancer Christopher Gable. The production is a new work, choreographed by American dancer Christopher Gable. The production is a new work, choreographed by American dancer Christopher Gable.

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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, returns only
Some seats available
Starts at all prices

SEBILIN BERTIE: Howard Brenton's sharp though muddled comedy of the new Europe where a social worker, a trusting wife and a spy have lost their bearings. With Penny Downie, Diana Rigg and Nicholas Woodson. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

THE COTTON CLUB: An immersion of the Harlem nightspot. High on energy, low on story. Fredrickson. Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404), Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 150mins.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN: Two new cast members, Geraldine James and Paul Freeman, join Michael Byrne in Aniel Dorfman's Chelem political drama. Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 2pm, Sat, 4pm, 120mins.

GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE: Satisfying musical celebrating Fifties and Sixties pop decades. Great stuff. Playhouse, Northampton Avenue (01-839 4401), Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm, 150mins.

HEARTBREAK HOUSE: Paul Scofield and Vanessa Redgrave head Trevor Nunn's splendid cast in Shaw's timeless, state-of-the-art drama. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Wed, Sat, 2.30pm, 225mins.

MOBY DICK: A girl school puts on a fund-raising show. A girl school puts on a fund-raising show. A girl school puts on a fund-raising show. A girl school puts on a fund-raising show. A girl school puts on a fund-raising show.

THE DOCTOR: (12) Colossal surgeon (William Hurt) goes under the knife and becomes a better person. Familiar material, but well treated. Director, Randy Harts.

VOYAGER: (15) Strange coincidences and a pretty girl deal the fate of a globe-trotting engineer (Sam Neill) who, absorbing version of Max Frisch's novel, Homo faber, director, Volker Schlöndorff. Curzon West End (01-439 4805).

STOP ON MY MIND: (15) Shoot (Pete Postlethwaite) from Seattle. Gritty comes to visit back-to-back on set. Sylvester Stallone. Thriller comedy for the early pleased director. Rialto.

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Lez Broderson and conducted by Ivor Bolton. Also in the touring repertoire is Claire Vaneless's production of the British opera Albert Herring. Arts Theatre, 6 St Edward's Passage, Cambridge (0223 352000), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

NORWICH SOUND CITY '92: A host of happening bands demands on East Anglia from tonight to next Sunday. Among the highlights, prepare for industrial-strength anarchy from The Fall (auditorium, tonight, 6.30pm), disavowed folk-rock from Edd Reader (auditorium, tomorrow, 6.30pm), rubbery, bass-heavy sounds from Jah Wobble's The Sound of Madness (auditorium, 6.30pm) and electronic dance music from The Shamen (auditorium, Fri, 6.30pm).

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The thinking man's headbangers

Rush
Wembley Arena

THOUGHTLESSLY derided for their unfashionably "progressive" music and routinely reviled for their libertarian politics, Rush have nevertheless sustained an enviable level of international success throughout the Eighties. And it turns out that the group has had a far greater influence on modern rock than anyone predicted, with a new generation of heavyweights, from Metallica to Living Colour, now admitting a debt to the Canadian trio's pioneering work in developing a heavy rock aesthetic that is both intelligent and suitably pungent.

For Rush, however, the hard thinking has long since overtaken the hard rocking, and in terms of raw, speedy excitement, the group can no longer hold a candle to its protégés. Indeed, the first of two Wembley shows was such a tightly-scripted affair that any passion or personality which the band might have possessed was squeezed out like juice from a lemon, leaving a dry husk with a distinctive tang.

The show's appeal rested on flawless production values and a display of monumentally efficient musicianship. The tone was established early on by "Time Stand Still," a firm, but sophisticated rocker, fleshed out by guitarist Alex Lifeson's precise arpeggios and



Impressive bass-guitarist and singer: Geddy Lee of the Canadian group Rush, at Wembley Arena

supplemented visually by a beautifully-filmed sequence of back-projected images: a faintly surreal, aerial sweep above rivers, forests and mountain ravines.

They continued to mine this seam of mellow, manicured metal with a string of tracks from the current album *Roll the Bones*, a Top Ten hit here and there in America. Attention was engaged (even if the emotions were not) by the clean-cut melody of "Dreadnought," the harsh mechanical drum track of "Brimad," and the thought-provoking lyric and accompanying visuals of "Roll the

Bones" itself, a sort of poetic dissertation on the relationship between effort and happenstance in the shaping of an individual's destiny.

Although bassist Geddy Lee has modified his singing voice so that he no longer sounds like a man who has just sat down on a red hot poker, his high, brittle tone remains an acquired taste. His uncanny ability simultaneously to play complex bass lines and sing radically dissociated melodies was, however, never less than impressive. So too was Neil Peart's drum solo, "The Rhythm Method," an explosively

concise exposition which made imaginative use of electronically tuned percussive effects.

Lifeson and Lee both doubled up on synthesizers and the mix was further bolstered by backing tapes. With a four-way speaker system and comparisons with English perennialists such as Pink Floyd. Yes and Genesis were hard to avoid. Like them, Rush is clearly not an act which is about to disappear in a hurry.

DAVID SINCLAIR

THEATRE

Tonic, but not the remedy that's needed

THE scene is a newly privatised hospital, named The Royal East London Infirmary Trust. "Patients" says the weaselly manager, "We prefer to call them clients." Out of sight, a pensioner too poor to pay the going rate has had his walking frame snatched back and is clinging for support to a soup-wending machine. Also out of sight, junior doctors are sleeping in a pile in the corridor. Two weary-faced patients - sorry, clients - are eternally waiting in Reception. Jeff Teare's production misses a sick joke by not turning them into skeletons for the final scene.

Despite its hospital setting, sick humour is not on the prescription for Patrick Prior's play. The style harks back to the Miss Manks of Theatre Workshop, where the savage satire of *Oh What a Lovely War* was an exception. The capitalist targets of those days were seldom assailed by anything more damaging than paper darts; still, though Prior's play comes nowhere near Prior's sublime *National Health*, it is light years

ahead of the vaseotomy clinic in Alan Bleasdale's rubbishy *Having A Ball*. Dear old Mrs Pottinger, for instance, is a neatly drawn minor character, bent almost double but smiling gamely as she hobbles on, hardly liking to mention that she has now been waiting 12 hours for the ambulance to take her home. Regina Freedman makes a genuine human being from a trick of posture and a handful of lines, when she is not also playing a nurse, a photographer and a body ambulance man whose moustache keeps coming off on the back of his/her hand.

The manager, who is expecting a visit from a Junior Health Minister and her medical adviser, persuades himself he has found them when two escaped psychiatric patients start flashing their medical knowledge. The

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Spain's reign was not so plain

LITERATURE

Mexico's premier writer, Carlos Fuentes, is a uniquely well informed guide to the consequences of Spanish empire-building in the Americas. He talks to Harry Eyres

When Carlos Fuentes said: "There are some writers who are wonderful to read but not much fun to have lunch with," he was referring to the great Spanish poet Luis Cernuda, (whom, like virtually every major literary figure of the mid-20th century onwards, Fuentes knew or knows personally). The second half of his statement is not applicable to himself.

Over lunch in a Bloomsbury restaurant, the 63-year-old, dapper Mexican novelist and man of letters produced a marvellously rich flow of table talk, erudite, wide-ranging, capable of startling connections: Mantegna's *Dead Christ* in the Brera reminds him of Che Guevara. His intellectual energy appears boundless. The name Fuentes, springs or fountains in Spanish, could hardly be more apt. He was here to launch a book and a television series (BBC 2, tomorrow night, entitled *The Buried Mirror*, which explores the special cultural relationship between Spain and the New World. In the Spanish-speaking world, the debate about the quincentenary of Columbus's discovery of the Americas has been polarised between rancorous regret and the sort of imperialist triumphalism once associated with General Franco.

The most extreme case of the former has been a Peruvian claim for Spain to repay the gold of the Incas and the silver gouged out of the mines of Potosí. There is also growing intolerance in Spain against South Americans, which Fuentes apprehensively links with the rise of neo-fascist xenophobia throughout Europe. He deplores

both tendencies. "The point is not self-castigation or celebration but a chance to reflect on what we have achieved in 500 years — descendants of Spaniards, Incas, Aztecs, black Africans."

Fuentes obviously delights in the incorrigible promiscuity of his own, Mexican culture, in which elements of Aztec, Toltec and Mayan civilisation have been subtly fused with the great legacy of European, Roman and native Hispanic civilisation brought by the Conquistadors. "I don't believe in pure cultures. We are all mongrels, we are what we are because of invasions: in our case Conquistadors, in yours Romans and Normans."

'I don't believe in pure cultures. We are all mongrels, we are what we are because of invasions'

Fuentes is particularly well placed to interpret this process to English-speaking Americans and the English. Coming from a country which is a kind of hinge between North and South America, he seems as happy speaking and writing English as Spanish: he was brought up partly in Washington DC (also in Buenos Aires and Santiago de Chile) and as well as

serving as a diplomat in Paris he has taught in a string of North American universities.

A surprisingly large proportion of *The Buried Mirror*, however, is devoted to the culture of Spain, the Mother-country, or, as Cernuda called her, *la madrastra*, the unloving stepmother (territory treated fictionally in Fuentes's vast, labyrinthine novel about the time of Philip II, *Terra Nostra*). Fuentes is engaged in cultural reclamation, seeking out the neglected richness and value of Spanish civilisation, which has too often been written off as violent and destructive.

"I don't believe in the *Leyenda Negra*, the black legend of Spanish cruelty. It's a form of self-denial," Fuentes reminds us of Spain's singular ability to question the justness of its own acts of colonisation, the contributions of the Dominicans such as Father Montesinos who cried out in his sermon before Christmas 1511. "Are these not men? Have they not rational souls?" Later, the Jesuit Father Vitoria, a founder of the modern concept of human rights, told the Pope he had no right to occupy Indian lands, but only to establish missions.

Even the optimistic Fuentes, however, is not disposed to deny that behind the noble ideals of the Spanish Law of the Indies, the reality of colonisation was "harsh and often inefficient exploitation of land and labour by local bosses". The nemesis of Spanish civilisation both at home and in America was the non-emergence of a strong civil society and the political institutions, culminating in democracy, to safeguard it. Even when the Latin



Carlos Fuentes: his latest book (also a BBC 2 series) explores the cultural and other legacies of Spain's American empire-building

American countries, almost in unison, threw off the Spanish yoke in the 1810s, the French-inspired revolutionary ideals of Bolívar remained abstractions.

Fuentes has some optimism about Mexico, despite the economic crisis throughout Latin America, which has meant growing poverty for a decade. "The key is the development of civil society and

everywhere I see people organising themselves. When there was a terrible earthquake in Mexico in 1985 civil society acted much more quickly and effectively than the government."

Fuentes can hardly restrain his glee about the creeping Hispanicisation of the United States (a theme adumbrated in *The Old Gringo*, his novel about the disappearance

of the American journalist Ambrose Bierce in Mexico). "By some projections more than half the population of the USA will be Spanish-speaking by 2050. And the state of California has just declared that its language is English, which obviously proves the opposite."

But Fuentes is motivated less by cultural vengeance than by a

generous delight in the ever-rich possibilities offered by linguistic and cultural multiplicity. He says, "You can already see bumper stickers on cars in Texas which say 'Mono-lingualism is a curable disease.'"

● *The Buried Mirror*, a five-part series, begins on BBC 2 tomorrow night at 8pm. The book of the same name is published this week by Deutsch.

THEATRE

One text, two languages and a common purpose

At London's Mermaid Theatre, the stage proportions and actor-audience relationship are the same as those at the Acarte Theatre of the Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon. This information might seem like one of 1,000 Amazing Facts You Need Never Remember, but it has a bearing on the production of *The Chester Mystery Plays* opening at the Mermaid tomorrow night.

One of the four cycles of biblical plays that survived from the Middle Ages (the York, Coventry and Wakefield cycles), the Mermaid performances are the fruit of an Anglo-Portuguese collaboration in which players from the two countries act together in their own language. I was fortunate to see this improbable production at its Lisbon venue.

The selection of plays takes the story from Lucifer's revolt to the sacrifice of Isaac and then leaps forward to the birth of Jesus and the events of Easter Week. Eight actors from the London Theatre Ensemble act their roles in English; eight from the theatre companies of Braga, Evora and Porto act in Portuguese. Thus, Mark Sproston's Gabriel, sporting a fine growth of white feathers along his arms, announces the good news to Mary in his language and Ana Bustorff replies in hers.

Opera has occasionally been performed in two languages, plays very rarely; yet the risky mixture works remarkably well, helped by director Mark Dornford-May's even-handed distribution of roles. One half of the double acts of Cain and Abel, Annas and Caiaphas, speaks the language we know, enabling us to work out what the other half is on about. The shepherds and the kings, Herod's soldiers and Noah's sons, also mix languages. The only scene that lost my attention was the Last Supper, inevitably short on movement and largely in Portuguese.

The seed of this unique co-production was planted when David Westhead, an actor now with the RSC in Stratford, heard that the Gulbenkian had sponsored a production by the 7-84 Company in Scotland. Much of his childhood was spent in Portugal and he thought, "If them, why not me? Why not a British tour to Portugal?"

Dornford-May had taught Westhead at Rada and suggested that the fantasy story of the Mystery Plays might overcome the language difficulty. One of the Gulbenkian's trustees, Dr Pedro Tamen, came up with the idea of a bilingual production. Dornford-May's

Jeremy Kingston previews an Anglo-Portuguese stage production coming to London from Lisbon this week

shortened text was translated and after a workshop last summer. *Os Mistérios de Chester* was born.

José Ananias, who plays an urgent, red-shirted Jesus, said, through an interpreter: "In Portugal, we are accustomed to working slowly. We sit at a table for a long time. The behaviour of the English actors is very focused, as if tomorrow is the opening day. Also, Portuguese directors tend to impose their ideas upon the actors. But Mark expects the actors to give out ideas, to know already what the character is." Dornford-May growled: "I can always make them change to what I want, later."

He and the unknown author of the Chester cycle have constructed between them a model of the universe in which God's mildly liberal attempts to improve existence regularly go amuck and must be paid for by killing something.

Medieval audiences did not receive theological subtleties

and this throws the interest upon Dornford-May's ideas for animating simple conflicts. Understandably, his most successful solutions are visual.

When Michael Thomas's soberly trustful God creates the angelic orders, nine angels in flared coats encircle the heavenly throne; the rope that links them is tugged away by the ambitious Lucifer until they tumble into a heap. The creation of the naked Adam and Eve is gracefully imagined; and Ana Bustorff's intense Mary encounters Gabriel not during her devotions, but while turning hay.

Everyday details add to the spectacular effects. Strong lighting from the front corners of the stage throw menacing shadows against the rear wall. Herod's soldiers stab at the snatched babes until a red powder bursts out. And whenever an evil councillor is required, Gordon Anderson's lizard-lipped Lucifer slithers into another character and God's plan goes wrong again.

The bilingual approach brings an unexpected gloss by reminding us that Christianity was designer-planned to speak to all nations. At the Mermaid, *Os Mistérios* become *The Mystery Plays* once more and, though there are no orange trees fruiting in Blackfriars, audiences should still find food for thought.

● *The Mystery Plays, at the Mermaid, Puddle Dock, London EC4 0J71-410 0000 from tomorrow.*



Murderous monarch: Herod (Adam Blackwood) attacks a nursemaid (Nicola King) in the *Chester Mystery Plays*

RADIO REVIEW

Hear they come again

"Vissi d'arte", from *Tosca* — the singers' equivalent of "To be or not to be".

Two Saturdays ago, the last rugby match of the season (and the celebrations that followed) caused me to arrive home too late for the start of *Kaleidoscope* (Radio 4), and in no shape to make the most of what was left of it anyway. All I caught was the same, familiar and beautiful song being sung over and over again, and the impression that people were telling me to visit Auntie at Tesco. When the programme was repeated, last Friday night, I found out it was a survey of sopranos and opera directors on the challenges of singing the aria

in which a critic compares different recordings of the same piece, this was among the best exercises in opera dissection I can recall. Thus it was with new confidence and a re-tuned ear that I settled down to *Carmen* in Claire Grove's production on Radio 4, on Easter Saturday night. At least I could singalong this one, but wait — where was the music? And where, even on radio, were the fancy uniforms and flailing fans?

Perverse, I call it. We all know *Carmen* is an opera — or rather we all know *Carmen* as an opera, but in this two-part classic serial we have a rare

chance to hear Prosper Mérimée's original prose story, astutely transposed by Stephen Jeffreys from the 19th century to 1936, with Spain in the grip of civil war and Carmen (Adjoa Andoh) as a gypsy who will survive whether it means lifting her skirt for Franco's officers or flogging ammunition to the communists. José (Iain Glen), meanwhile, is a Basque with a Scottish accent who is so besotted by Carmen that at the end of episode one he wouldn't know his aria from a *Bolero*. I think we're going to enjoy this.

I thought I was going to enjoy *The Legend of Robin Hood* (Radio 4, Saturday,

more than I did. It seems like only a fortnight ago that the director, Nigel Bryant, was galloping us from Norman England, over to the Crusades and back in time for tiffin. In fact it was only a fortnight ago, in a better-by-far piece called *Assassins*, the little-known tale of what became of Thomas à Becket's murderers. This tale is all-too well known, and while John Fletcher's script rattled on lyrically about the greenwood, the wicked Sheriff and the merry men of Sherwood, there was nothing John Nentles could do with the title role to prevent us poring to the punchlines before him. "Who's this giant coming across the bridge, Tuck?" It's Little John, you idiot, and he's going to dump you in the river. Even Kevin Costner knows that.

PATRICK STODDART

Moving confidently onto another stage

DANCE IN OPERA

Choreographer Aletta Collins is co-directing Scottish Opera's new *Don Giovanni* with designer Tom Cairns. Nadine Meisner went to Glasgow to sit in on a still-unusual collaboration

After a hard day, Aletta Collins is viewing the world through extreme tiredness. Choreographing for opera, she says, is "mucky and horrible, like wading through mud. You put the cassette on and there are singers belting it out. And you think, 'What on earth am I supposed to do in the middle of this?'"

But for Scottish Opera's new production of *Don Giovanni* she has been co-director in her last three operas: *King Lear* for Opera North and the Flanders Opera, *La Bohème* for the Stuttgart Opera and now *Don Giovanni*. She obviously finds this more satisfying than simply slotting in her choreographic services. Although this *Don Giovanni* is not a "concept" production — the opera will be free to speak for itself — a designer-director-movement team clearly makes for a more homogeneous approach.

There has been no clear demarcation of responsibilities: Cairns has often directed movement; Collins has sometimes taken rehearsals. During the run-throughs Cairns's restless silhouette stands out in the auditorium, charging along a row of seats to check the stage picture from different angles. Or, with Collins, he bounds on to the stage, the pair of them hovering round the cast like solicitous parents or Bugaku puppeteers, adjusting limbs, pointing to destinations, or halting everything to demonstrate a walk or discuss motivation. Like dancers, opera singers "mark" their numbers, whispering their way through, so that early rehears-

als are concerned with the logistics of movement and drama.

With *Don Giovanni*, Collins has had her first experience of using non-professional dancers, but only the singers: 20 chorus and eight soloists. Instead of creating the steps on their own, using their bodies to mould the movement as she normally would, she spent one week in London choreographing on two professional dancers, arriving in Glasgow with everything ready.

"Because they don't come from a dance background, they are not interested, for example, in moving their hands ten different ways for you to decide which you like," she explains. "They just want you to tell them what to do and then they'll work their socks off to do it well. So I just started by describing what this dance is going to be."

"I said it's probably much too hard, but I'm going to teach it to you and the bits that really are too hard, we'll change. But they just did it. And wonderfully."

Where non-dancers have difficulty is in refining movement. "It's hard to get subtle

changes," Collins says. "If that's the movement, then that's it." It is not that they can't see or feel a slight variation, but they don't have the carefully attuned body awareness to understand how it can be achieved.

But there is one thing Collins loves about the chorus. "It's not that I don't miss the clarity and refinement of dance, but the chorus have a way of going for the stuff that I really like. There's a sense of energy and excitement and effort. It can be quite tricky to get a real dancer not to cover up effort. Yet sometimes you want it to show."

Stephen Hill enjoys the gestural emphasis of Collins's style. "She makes the dances look complicated and interesting by the use of arms rather than fancy footwork." In the ballroom minuet dance, the

performers flutter their hands like fans and lick their fingers as though overheated and eating cream. Collins explains: "It's night, the guests are hot and tired, they have walked miles to get there. Everybody's a bit too excited; everything goes a bit too far; it all turns into a nightmare." Not for her the museum-perfect recreation of a minuet; but she doesn't want to offer an obtrusive, self-conscious display, either.

She has been commissioned to do a second piece for London Contemporary Dance Theatre in January, and together with Cairns and Helen Cooper (translator for this *Don Giovanni*), she is trying to find funds for a collaborative dance project.



Sollicitous: Aletta Collins rehearsing Scottish Opera

● *Don Giovanni* opens at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041-332 9000) tomorrow at 7.15pm

Loyalties torn by distant conflict

Jon Stock reports on the effect of civil war on the Serbs and Croats who live together in London



War bulletins: watching Belgrade TV in a London hotel

Tatjana, a 19-year-old woman from Slovenia, is still shocked by what happened to her two weeks ago. Sitting in a tiny bedsit flat in Shepherd's Bush, west London, she talks nervously. "I was singing at a local wine bar, just up the road from here. It is very popular with Serbians. Everyone was very drunk, and I was about to sing 'What A Wonderful World' by Louis Armstrong. Instead, I decided to sing a traditional Slovenian folk song first. They hated it. I thought they would spit at me. It was terrible, I didn't expect that. Afterwards I was desperate. If it wasn't for my friends, I don't know what I would have done."

When civil war broke out last summer between Slovenia and Serbia, and then spread to Croatia, thousands of young people fled their homes to avoid the fighting. Many of them are now living in Britain, either illegally or having sought refugee status from the Home Office.

Tatjana hitchhiked across the Continent to Britain last October with her Slovenian friend, Judita. They live together, sharing their flat with three others, among them a Serb and a Macedonian.

London has had a large Serbian population since immediately after the second world war, during which King Peter II of Yugoslavia, a Serb, sought refuge in Britain. The Orthodox Serbian Church in Notting Hill estimates that there are 15,000 Serbs living in the capital. There are considerably fewer Croats (800 according to the Croatian Catholic Mission). Until recently, they have lived side by side in relative harmony in London. However, as the fighting in Yugoslavia intensifies, particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where Serbs, Croats and Muslims are engaged in an increasingly bloody war, relations in London have become strained.

On election night in London the founder of the Croatian Society, Count Louis Doimi de Lupis, invited a small group of

Croatians to his house off Launceston Place, London W8, to discuss the fighting in Bosnia. Many of his guests' home towns had been all but destroyed by relentless bombing.

"Last week we organised a charity concert for Croatia," the Count said. "There are many more Serbs living in London than Croats. We can only kill them culturally. We are never going to give up."

The assembled guests included academics, an estate agent, and Father Drago, a priest who runs the Croatian Catholic Mission in London. One mature student, Gordana Baranovic from Sibenik, was close friends with a Serb living in London. They had known each other since 1975, when Mrs Baranovic arrived in Britain. They fell out after the Serbian army subjected Sibenik to a particularly heavy bombardment.

"My sister phoned me," Mrs Baranovic said. "I could hear her crying, her baby was screaming. My father was asking if he could come and sleep on my floor here in London. I saw pictures on the news of our damaged cathedral. I saw my town in all the newspapers. My Serbian friend didn't ring me for a few days after that."

Then one day she rang me and asked how I was. She upset me by saying that the Serbian army would sort out all the mess. 'What mess?' I said. 'You started it. It's very sad. I used to go along to the Serbian church with her. Our relationship was very close. She now describes me as her ex-friend, an extremist.'

While Mrs Baranovic was recounting her story, a group of Serbs was gathering, around a television at the Hotel Rava Gora, on Holland Park Avenue in London, watching Belgrade TV on satellite. Radomir Jovanic runs the hotel. "I have been living here for 20 years and I have met one Croat," he says. "She was a nice girl, but she wouldn't marry me because I am a Serb. In London, the war has divided us even more."

Tatjana shakes her head



Armed truce: Serbian territorial soldiers during a UN-negotiated ceasefire in January. Amongst the emigré population in London, the battle-lines are still drawn, however

when she hears that such views are being openly expressed. She points out that both Mrs Baranovic and Mr Jovanic have been living here for a long time, and are of a different generation. The Serbs who heckled her at the wine bar were also older. For many young people escaping Yugoslavia, she explains, London is a place where they can live in peace together, a haven where they can regain their humanity.

She introduces me to Milan, a 20-year-old Serb who was living in Croatia. He was smuggled into Britain last October. "He was the most desperate man I have ever met," Tatjana says. "He had seen a lot of blood, and been asked to fight against friends. He was fighting against Slovenia, my country, but we are very close. We accept him here."

Last August, Milan was serving with the federal army, a predominantly Serbian force. He fought in a battle at Zagreb airport in Croatia, where his family still lives. After finishing his national service for the federal army, he was called up by the Croatian

defence force. His mother rang him last week to say the Croatian police are looking for him. His name and photo are in the local press.

"I didn't know who to fight any more," Milan says. "I am a Serb, but many of my friends are Croats. If I go back to Croatia, I will be sentenced to five years imprisonment. But I will probably be shot first by the people for not being there in a time of need."

Milan's friend, Zvonimir, is a deserter from the federal army, and lives in the same tiny bedsit. Five of them sit around, smoking when they can afford it and eating once a day. They have few possessions, and wear the same clothes every day. They are afraid to talk or have their photos taken.

Zvonimir is from Vojvodina, an autonomous part of Serbia. Before he was called up, he was training to be a journalist. "I had a great life in Yugoslavia. I am 24. I had my own house, a car. I always had enough money, my town was wealthy. Now I am here, I have nothing."

He arrived in Britain last August and lived on the streets for three months. He worked casually, until finally applying

'We can only kill them culturally. We are never going to give up'

for refugee status from the Home Office. After six months, he will be given a work permit. In the meantime, his rent is paid for by housing benefit and he receives £28 a week. "London is the one city in all the world where you can find a job just by going from shop to shop and asking. You can't do that anywhere else," he says.

"In Germany, for example, they ask for papers. Here no-

body asks you for anything."

Milan and Zvonimir both have many Croatian friends. Shepherd's Bush and the surrounding area, traditionally popular with Serbs, is filling up with Yugoslavians of all ethnic origins. Once he was convinced that I was not from the Home Office, Milan agreed to take me to a basement flat in Hammersmith to meet Ivan (not his real name), a Croatian friend. Ivan came

to Britain in 1990 and is living with Vlado, a Bosnian Serb. His visa has run out and he is hoping that the Home Office will let him stay.

Milan remains quiet, as Vlado and Ivan joke about killing each other. They say it is the only way they can cope with the war. Their relationship has, if anything, improved since their respective states started fighting each other.

"But you have to be careful," Ivan says. "Before, when you met anyone from Yugoslavia, you were happy and hugged you were a brother. Now you have to shut up, you don't know what they might do or

say. There are a lot of extremists in London now."

Last October, Croatia asked its citizens to return to defend their state. Ivan was tempted, but resisted. Now it is too late. If he goes back, he will be shot as a deserter, perhaps even by his friends, he says. "I rang my mother to ask her," he says. "She said 'If you come back, you will no longer be my son. You cannot stay at our house.' She knew that I would be killed."

Milan returns to his flat, where we all sit around, listening to a tape of Tatjana singing "What A Wonderful World".

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St George and the bull

In part of Russia
England's patron saint
inspires wild devotion

St George got around a bit. In life, according to the version reported by Metaphrastes, he was a rather grand Cappadocian soldier under Diocletian during the third century; he visited England, organised Christianity in Armenia, declared his faith to his leader and was tortured and put to death.

Since then, his relics have performed miracles in France, the Orthodox Eastern Church and Islam both honour him, he has been patron of Genoa, Venice, Portugal, Aragon and Germany as well as of England, the protector of the (Italian city of Ferrara and the avenger of women, a model of knightlyhood, a hero to the Crusaders. Calvin impugned his very existence.

In Valdivkavkaz, the capital of North Ossetia, they disagree. North Ossetia is a tiny autonomous republic, population 643,000, near Georgia in the Russian Federation and according to Robert Chenciner, an ethnographer and a senior member of St Antony's College, Oxford, the North Ossetians are eclectic polytheist pagans whose favourite saint is St George. They call him Wasyrdzhy and instead of giving him a single feast day (as the English do on April 23), each November they celebrate him with a week of constant feasting.

Mr Chenciner was in Valdivkavkaz for the festival of Wasyrdzhy last year. He stayed with the Dsusev family in a modern suburb. Among the tower-blocks was a single-storey building, built five years ago by public subscription, for holding feasts. Inside, three long tables were being set and decorations were being hung for the celebrations.

Wasyrdzhy, Mr Chenciner says, is patron of men and of masculine activity, such as hunting and fighting. He is portrayed wearing a white burka (a hairy felt cloak with grotesquely wide shoulders) and riding on a three-legged white horse. Quite unlike his Western version, this



Party time: Valdivkavkaz residents boil an animal for their feast

George is considered dangerous to women, but this is quite logical when you consider the local personage with whom he became combined.

In North Ossetia he merged with a fellow from the Iranian Nart Epic. The Narts were giants, and Wasyrdzhy had a great passion for one of the female Narts. She would not have him, but his passion was unabated and after her death he "visited" her in her grave, and fathered on her Satana, one of the great Nart heroines.

Mr Chenciner went to market with the Dsusevs to buy animals to sacrifice to Wasyrdzhy. "If a family isn't well off, they'll buy a ram, which costs about £10," he says. "If they're rich, they buy a bull, for about £100. The feast goes on for a week, and it's rather like Christmas — you prepare your feast for one of the days, and on the others you go to your friends and relations. The women don't take part; they sit in the other room and get bored, and are brought a plate of food."

"There was a vast 300-litre pot on a welded steel trivet, bubbling away, with a

chopped up bull inside it. Next to it was a 50-litre vat with the intestines and choice innards. They kill the animal by tying it down by the horns and cutting its throat with a dagger, with singing and prayers for health, good fortune, and St George's help. They pray to the devil, too, just to make sure."

Mr Chenciner adds that it is very important when serving the meat to include the head. This is because of a terrible legend about some Nart prisoners who were served meat by their captors, and wanted to know what it was — it turned out, of course, to be boiled Nart. So hosts show the head so that guests know they are not being made into cannibals.

There is also a complicated ritual involving the right ear of the animal: it is cut off, cut in three vertically, then the three

eldest men present balance a slice across a glass, which they raise in toast and pass to the three youngest, who pass back their glasses to the eldest. "Everyone drinks toasts, the gist of which is that the younger men should heed the elder, be wise in his head and strong in his neck, and then the younger men eat the slices of ear and knock back their drink," Mr Chenciner says. "I was the oldest youngest. The ear was sweet and crunchy."

Sunday is the culmination of celebrations, and hundreds of people drive to a twelfth-century church of St George in Dzgis for a blessing. Men and women queue up separately for blessings, and there is even male and female food: flat loaves with cheese inside are female, boiled meat on the bone is male.

At the church, Mr Chenciner noticed three modern pictures of St George on horseback, slaying the dragon. "There was a picture of Stalin, too," he says. "It's not much like Morris dancing, is it?"

LOUISA YOUNG

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Pride and prejudice

There were new conservative

Liberty with the tabloid touch

Britain's more colourful and raucous papers are good for free speech and democracy, says Jane Reed

I think it was at the recent European Press Assises, sitting in a room the size of a football pitch listening to Euro-worthies elevate journalism to the Elysian plane, that I finally

sickened me. Scribblers and hacks, union reps, entrepreneurs and company directors were all claiming proprietorial rights on freedom of speech.

This was an extraordinary scene of self-aggrandisement and double-speak. The journalists, seeking after freedom of speech — and any story that will keep the news editor off their backs for another day — were represented by the unions. The leader of the unions said, in an extraordinary leap of logic, that "freedom of speech goes hand in hand with deteriorating terms and conditions", thus claiming the high ground against the proprietors.

Now we all know the proprietors are hot on the kind of freedom of speech — commercial and editorial — that leaves them free to sell as many papers as they can to as many people as possible.

What I was witnessing was the turning of a fundamentally good idea called journalism — let's inform and entertain the people — into a religious order with its own creed, freedom of speech, its own hierarchy of canons and prelates, its own warring factions of populism versus intellectual purity. And, inevitably, its own inquisitions.

"Are you, or were you ever, a tabloid journalist?" At the pearly gates of this new religion, Kelvin MacKenzie will have to answer to journalism's self-appointed inquisitors for his perceived sins. There will be no forgiveness. Tabloid journalism despoils the creed.

The speech we seek to keep free must be written only in the ways laid down by the established "church", using an approved lexicon. And it must be read only by those of a prescribed intellectual ability. This religious order would rather have a few right and like-minded followers than a burgeoning parish of pluralistic thinkers.

So just who are these high priests? What is their bill of indictment? And do they truly represent the lay millions who read The Word?

They are a mixture of church and state. The "church" is represented by the editors and scribblers at the high altar of the quality papers who want to flick the dandruff of tabloids off their papal shoulders: why must those tabloid journalists do what every other journalist does, so obviously?

The "state" is the officials and parliamentarians who feel uneasy with an untamed press which is not indebted to its government for subsidies and special favours and will not be restrained from holding public officials up to ridicule.

Questions about the power of the press are hot. Did Basil Donlan man



Black and white: although denounced by the "high priests", Britain's tabloids seem to be doing something right — more young people choose to read them than does the adult population as a whole

swinging the election and is the only influence on his political thinking The Sun? And if so, did he enter the polling booth like a zombie devoid of all free will? I do not think so. But perhaps I have more respect for Basil Donlan's intelligence than does the Labour party.

Undoubtedly, the press has power. Undoubtedly, responsibility must go hand in hand with that power. But to paraphrase Pat Chapman, the editor of the News of the World, at the Association of British Editors' seminar: Ethel of Dagenham has a very different view of what constitutes power and responsibility to that of, for instance, Donald Treford. This makes neither of them right and neither of them wrong. Just different. The intellectual high ground, of course, will award the broadsheet view more column inches than it will give to Ethel of Dagenham, even if Ethel's views are often more cogently expressed.

The broadsheets do the press in this country no good by constantly berating the tabloids for what they see as their excesses. And the regional papers that claim to have a monopoly of the common man's respectability would do well to remember that complaints against them from the common man to the Press Complaints Commission outnumber those against the tabloids.

Celebrities and politicians may be wary of the British tabloid press, but those with fewer vested interests and some understanding of the business acknowledge that we have the most competitive, pluralistic and diverse press in the world.

Twenty-one national newspapers owned by 11 proprietors, 89 regional dailies, 1,500 weeklies and 7,500 magazines. We have the highest circulation of newspapers per head in the European Community. We circulate 393 copies per 1,000 people compared to, for instance, only 127 in France.

As Jacques Delors (who has little reason to champion the British press) said in his keynote speech to the Assises: "It appears to me that there is one country where this fight by the press is stronger than anywhere else: Great Britain. The newspapers do not hesitate to ask fundamental questions... most of the time the analyses are of high quality, they are forceful and, believe me, you can tell from the readers' letters."

By comparison, the American press, we are told, is breathing its last. There are several theories about why this should be. One is that it just lay down and died in front of the audiovisual invasion. Another that it is dying slowly as its tabloid strength ebbs away.

With some notable exceptions,

the only daily paper in most American towns is full of verbal diarrhoea written by graduates of right-thinking schools of journalism. Every single word has been objectively balanced out of its brain and pressed into acres of dehydrated prose.

In the past 20 years, American newspapers overall have lost almost three times as many readers as have UK papers. Most of them are in the younger age group, but contrary to current thinking, people between 21-25 years in America may not have lost the reading habit to the television screen. In fact, their reading is increasing, but not of newspapers. Young America is reading more books and magazines instead.

The British tabloids, on the other

hand, seem to be doing something right because more young people choose to read tabloids than does the adult population as a whole.

You may deplore the fact that young people like the fast read of the tabloids. But at least they are reading newspapers and news stories: 50 to 60 a day in The Sun (against 60 to 65 a day in The Independent, by the way). They are reading properly constructed sentences with verbs (yes, bombing is a verb), in grammatical — if not always the Queen's — English.

And isn't this often raucous, colourful, challenging style of writing that keeps people on the edge of their seats — particularly young people? There is courage in tabloid journalism — sometimes misplaced, often reckless but never

timid. And the young, with their black-and-white view of the world, relate to it.

The Americans have free speech enshrined in their constitution and they cherish it. We have no constitution, no automatic right of free speech. Therefore the British press, like children testing the patience of their parents, push and jostle to see just what is meant by free, until someone says stop. I think — although I am not sure — that I prefer this: it means our rights and freedoms are constantly being tested and examined, not against a rigid constitution but against what is acceptable in a constantly changing society.

In any search for acceptable standards it is inevitable that we run into the question of excess. But the word itself is a value judgment. What is "too much"? How far is "too far"? And who should answer those questions?

In a democracy, obviously the people must answer. And there are enough examples of the reader dictating publishing policy: the Star struggling uncomfortably into, and out of, Sunday Sport's tacky underwear, or Sun readers' reaction to its coverage of the Hillsborough tragedy. Every editor knows in his heart which stories he wished he had not run; and if he cannot hear his heart, he can certainly see the size of his mailbox.

Working on the inside of the industry, we can see the reins being applied by the readers every day. But on the outside, this is not so obvious. Nor, it can be argued, is reader power always enough.

Clearly the media are not exactly like every other product. The Sun does have marginally more influence than a baked bean. And for that reason the media need more attention paid to them by the public than does a baked bean. A debate was, and is, necessary.

Parliament does not always represent the people, but in retrospect I think it verbalised some public

unease about privacy and the right of reply. It raised issues and awareness, and it proposed remedies, some of which the very people who espoused them now admit are unworkable.

Reason prevailed. We had Calcutt. Free-range editors paced the floor, gnawing on their fists, desperately trying to maintain the tabloid punch while changing their editorial tone of voice. In an effort to dissociate themselves from Calcutt criticisms, elements of the press put the blame entirely at the tabloid end of the market, conveniently forgetting their own lapses.

From the reader's point of view, the post-Calcutt Press Complaints Commission, unencumbered by a remit to define and support free speech, is a much more satisfactory stick for the consumer's benefit than the previous Press Council.

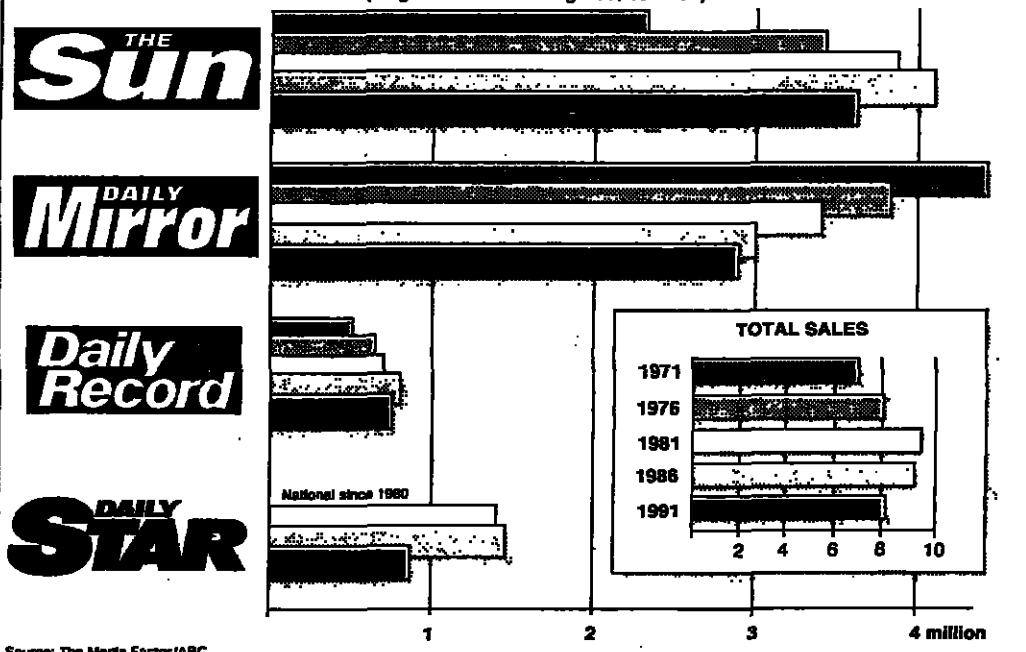
To rubbish the tabloids, to blame them for the ills of the press, to ascribe to them base and sinister motives, ranging from bringing down the monarchy to trying to destroy the moral fabric of society, is easy. But no sane person really believes this. These stories are as baseless as Sunday Sport's silly airbrushed picture of a baby born with a pig's snout and ears. However reluctantly, I have to agree that we should be free to read even that.

As John Milton said: "Promiscuous reading is necessary to the constituting of human nature... The attempt to keep out evil doctrine by licensing is like the exploit of that gallant man who thought to keep out the crows by shutting the park gate... Give me the liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties."

Right on, John.

This is a condensation of an article which appeared in British Journalism Review. Jane Reed is the director of corporate affairs for News International.

LEADING TABLOIDS: average sales per day (long-term circulation figures, 1971-91)



And now for a quiet life...

I climbed out of the car, my legs cramped after being driven at 110mph down the A1 from Huntingdon. We had been determined to get to Smith Square before John Major. It was 4.46 in the morning: during our journey the general election of 1992 had been won and lost.

Conservative Central Office was ablaze with light, and the air was full of balloons and flags. Crowds swayed backwards and forwards, camera lights picking out small groups of happy people in the darkness. There was chanting from a group of tough-looking characters near the massed television cameras: "Privatise the BBC!"

It seemed a popular opinion that night. The Sunday Express journalist Bruce Anderson, often mistaken for a Conservative Central Office press officer, was heard to describe the way in which the BBC would now be dismembered — as though he were a 17th-century judge sentencing a regicide.

Kenneth Baker expressed his anger at the BBC's election coverage and threatened revenge. In the hallway of Central Office 100 cameras and photographers jostled and sweated, waiting for Mr Major's arrival. I could still hear the chant drift in through the open doors: "Privatise the BBC!" "Doesn't sound too good," said one of my colleagues, like an explorer listening to the noise of drumming in the jungle.

There was no shortage, certainly, of people in the upper reaches of the Conservative party who felt angry with the BBC. There were new complaints about its election coverage and old ones about the

The BBC is unlikely to be under threat with John Major in Downing Street, John Simpson believes

Today programme, and there was the little matter of my having to call Mr Major's first public meeting "name". There was annoyance, too, that during the run-up to the election the 9 O'Clock News should have led with three minutes of a Neil Kinnock speech before dealing with a John Major one: as though the Tories were German holidaymakers who had to put their towel on the first place in the news bulletins every day. Perhaps the complaint referred to the Tuesday night before polling day, when the Conservatives managed to let their final, climactic rally over-run and Mr Major failed to finish his speech until 9.06. As if they were a Victorian duke at a railway station, the critics seemed to think the BBC should have held the news until they were ready to board.

If you are the governing party of the country and face the possibility of losing an election, little things like these mean a lot. The BBC had powerful enemies at the top of the party. Of those in Mr Major's previous cabinet who would probably like to see the BBC dismantled, one, Kenneth Baker, is now out of the action. But two other remaining senior cabinet min-

isters share the former Home Secretary's view. Yet as I stood in the hallway of Central Office in the early hours of April 10, I could not believe that serious politicians would use trivial complaints as an excuse for breaking the world's best-known broadcasting service on the wheel and distributing its reeking quarters around the country.

We have, after all, been here before. Margaret Thatcher gave the impression of being a greater enemy of the BBC than anyone: yet she had a clear understanding of the way the British public felt about it. At the Group of Seven summit in Venice she superceded the foreign journalists who attended her final news conference by launching into a long attack on the BBC.

Afterwards, as we walked together to the television interview room, I started to defend it. She stopped and laid her hand on my arm, smiling — she was warmer and less imperial in those days — and the security men behind us cannoned into one another in surprise. "My dear, you are sensitive," she said soothingly; and then, in a lower voice which I had to strain to hear: "Don't you see it's all part of the game?"

Not all her followers have realised it was just a game. In 1986, when American planes bombed Libya from British bases, Norman Tebbit, as the chairman of the Conservative party, launched an attack on the BBC's coverage. I was summoned from an unappetising lunch in the BBC canteen to help with the drafting of a reply.

As soon as I read Mr Tebbit's document I could see it was full of mistakes and unsupported, sometimes defamatory, allegations. The BBC had never previously defended itself vigorously in public like this against government attack, and it was instructive to see what happened.

First, Downing Street began to receive large numbers of letters of complaint from ordinary viewers and listeners. They were especially angry about the attack on Kate Adie, whose courage and reporting skills were as much admired then as now. Second, Mrs Thatcher quickly withdrew her support for Mr Tebbit's campaign. Soon it petered out, and Conservative Central Office was glad to forget it.

The BBC is an infuriating organisation in all sorts of ways: thoughtless, self-obsessed, sometimes appearing arrogant and at other times cowardly. For most of this century, though, it has provided part of the mortar which has bonded the British nation together. Without the BBC, we would be a less united kingdom. It has given us shared notions of who we are, what we are concerned with, what we find funny.

Except among a few politicians and journalists, it has —



John Simpson: 'the government knows broadcasting is part of the national heritage'

for all its failings — a real hold on the nation's affections. I do not believe public opinion would support a government if it tried to do the kind of wanton damage to the BBC that Mrs Thatcher did to independent television in Britain, ostensibly in the interests of creating a more American climate in the industry.

In the United States, itself, the commercial broadcasting system has done nothing to

raise educational standards, and because the American television networks show progressively less interest in the world outside, so the influence on government policy of educated, informed opinion declines.

In Germany and France, the tone of the public service broadcasters changes when the government changes, since the jobs at the top go to people with whom the incoming gov-

ernment is comfortable. We do not do things this way in Britain, and the British people would not like it if we did.

As for the outside world, the BBC is Britain. During the revolutions in Eastern Europe in 1989, I had only to say I worked for the BBC to be allowed into the inner-most sanctum of the revolutionaries, to be applauded in the streets, or to be lifted, on one embarrassing occasion, over the

heads of the rejoicing crowds. In Tiananmen Square the BBC was the single best-known foreign broadcasting service and we were swamped by well-wishers. During the coup in Moscow, communists and democrats alike let us do anything we wanted.

Now British influence, British culture and British standards of reporting are reaching large areas of the globe through BBC World Service Television, just as they have done for many years by World Service radio. Within three months of its inception, the BBC's television service to Asia was said to be reaching a larger audience than the American Cable News Network had gained in a decade. To explain to such enthusiasts abroad that the ruling party in Britain has its knife into the BBC and has threatened to break it up is to invite looks of sheer incomprehension.

Perhaps it will never happen. Mr Major is not a sinner. He is unlikely, therefore, to do to the BBC what Mrs Thatcher was too canny to attempt. When Mr Major announced the creation of a national heritage department, gave it responsibility for broadcasting, and put the relaxed and cultivated David Mellor in charge of it, it seemed conclusive.

No doubt there will be plenty of rows before the renewal of the BBC Charter in 1996. But I believe we now have a government that appreciates that broadcasting is indeed part of the national heritage, and not something to be tinkered with for party advantage. The advice of the revolutionary guards outside Central Office should not only be disregarded, it probably will be.

John Simpson is the BBC's foreign editor. This article first appeared in The Spectator.

What it takes to treat young minds in pain

Helping a teenager to cope with anger at a parent's sudden death, supporting a sexually abused child and counselling a family with a violent adolescent are all in a day's work for the child psychotherapist.

There is growing awareness of the damage done to children through abuse and neglect, but behind the headlines there are professionals who pick up the pieces and help frightened children towards a more normal life.

"Child psychotherapists are specially trained to help children who have suffered severe trauma or have been unable to develop trusting relationships with adults," explains Dorothy Judd, the principal child psychotherapist at the Middlesex Hospital, London.

"They offer treatment, often over many years, for eating and sleeping problems, violent and destructive behaviour, and the effects of death and divorce. Therapists, using psychoanalytical principles and techniques, encourage children to communicate their fears and experiences through play."

Child psychotherapy has had professional status within the NHS for 40 years, and many early practitioners worked in child guidance

Widget Finn describes the training that equips a child psychotherapist for the job

ance clinics to deal with the emotional problems of children, particularly evocative, after the war. There are four training schools for child psychotherapists in London and one in Edinburgh. The course is for postgraduates with an honours degree. "People usually start child psychotherapy training in their late twenties, often coming from a first career in nursing, teaching or social work," Mrs Judd says. "Students should already have worked with children, and perhaps also have some psychiatric experience."

Every student undergoes personal analysis three or four times a week with an approved practitioner as part of the training. Mrs Judd says: "Through their own analysis students gain insight into their own emotions and needs, which helps them to understand the conflicts in the children they treat."

The cost of analysis, which can be £5,000 a year, has to be borne by the student, and this, Mrs Judd points out, bars many suitable applicants from the profession through lack of funds. Scholar-

ships, however, are available through the Child Psychotherapy Trust, and some regional health authorities offer trainee posts.

The two-year pre-clinical programme has the status of an MA, and students develop their skills through detailed observation of babies and young children. The clinical training is from three to five years, when trainee psychotherapists work in the NHS under close supervision, taking on three long-term intensive cases with children of different ages. Trainees also work with parents of children in therapy and a variety of special patients, such as autistic or physically handicapped children.

Francesca Bartlett divides her working week as a child psychotherapist between a baby clinic at a west London health centre, and the children's department of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London. "The posts complement each other," she says. "At the health centre I am working in the community with mums who are referred with post-

natal depression, or with anxieties about their babies' eating and sleeping. At Bart's I work with children in hospital with chronic illness and the staff who are involved in their care."

Miss Bartlett qualified as a child psychotherapist a year ago. While working in a residential home with autistic children she decided to become a child psychotherapist and has worked steadily towards that goal for ten years. Her original training had been in the fine arts. She had to take further A levels and get a first degree before she could study child psychotherapy at the Tavistock Clinic in London.

She says: "Many psychotherapists have an academic background in psychology or psychiatry. I took a BA honours degree at London University in anthropology and linguistics because I felt that such a broadly based subject would increase my understanding of behavioural problems in children." At the pre-clinical stage of her training she worked in a social services nursery in Camden, north London, helping families where the mothers had come from broken homes and difficult backgrounds. After a five-year break because of family commitments, she embarked on the clinical programme,



combining it with a trainee post in the child guidance centre of a health authority. Only people who are strongly committed, she says, should consider this career.

"The training is demanding and strenuous," she says, "and involves considerable financial outlay. You have to work several evenings a week, and often can see patients only in the early morning. It takes

up a lot of emotional and mental energy, and friends and partners have to be understanding."

Many people who have moved from another career take a considerable drop in income. The financial rewards are small. NHS salaries start at £13,000 and there are few posts paying more than £20,000, though some psychotherapists also have private practices.

Child psychotherapy is, however, one of the few careers in which demand outstrips supply.

Child Psychotherapy Trust, 27 Ulysses Road, London NW16; Association of Child Psychotherapists, Burgh House, New End Square, London NW3; Training Administrator, Tavistock Clinic, Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA; Scottish Institute of Human Relations, 56 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QR

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